


WARE RIVER NEWS

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Board declares a state of emergency

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – The SelectBoard held an abbreviated meeting Tuesday and declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 disease, which will allow the town to access any state and federal funds made available. In addition to Ware Community Television

recording the meeting, as it always does, the town also provided audio and video conferencing of the meeting.

They also voted to postpone the upcoming Town Election, scheduled for Monday, April 13, to an undetermined later date due concerns about public safety, including the safety of election workers. The Board of Registrars will meet

soon and postpone the meeting, and then Town Clerk Nancy Talbot will recommend a new date. The board also briefly discussed the possibility of moving the upcoming Annual Town Meeting, but no action was taken. Although the new laws regarding elections and Town Meetings relaxes the requirements for a quorum, Selectmen Chairman Alan Whitney said he would rather

not do that as less than 100 people should not be deciding the town's issues for the rest of the town. Last year a Town Meeting had to rescheduled due to the lack of a quorum.

Complete Streets

SelectBoard members declined to approve the Complete Streets

Prioritization Plan, which lists what street safety projects the town wants to tackle, until police, fire and Department of Public Works officials have signed off on it first. Complete Streets is a federal program, managed by individual states, to help communities with projects to make their streets safer.

Please see **EMERGENCY**, page 10

Governor issues stay-at-home notice

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

As Gov. Charlie Baker issued an emergency order Monday requiring all businesses and organizations that do not provide "COVID-19 essential services" to close their physical workplaces, Ware and Warren voted Tuesday to declare their own state of emergency. It puts them in a position to take advantage of any federal and state funding that might become available to help with the effects of COVID-19.

Baker said those companies who are not in essential services had to close their facilities to workers, customers and the public as of Tuesday, at noon, until Tuesday, April 7, at noon, although there is the possibility it could be extended. Those businesses are encouraged to continue operations remotely.

There are still numerous exceptions such as healthcare workers, law enforcement, communications including news reporters and others, public works, transportation, farmers and agricultural workers, financial services, hazardous material handling and processing, energy workers, water and wastewater providers, chemical workers, critical manufacturers, information technology workers and transportation workers.

The Baker-Polito Administration issued a list of designated businesses and other organizations

Please see **STAY-HOME**, page 8

POSTCARDS FROM HOME

Keeping busy every day

Editor's Note: We will be running interviews with area residents about how they are faring during these changed circumstances for us all. Many are working from home or regularly work in the home, but now have school-aged children unexpectedly home as well. Children are encouraged to send in essays, poems, artwork and photos during this time. Anyone who would like to share their experiences should contact Eileen Kennedy at ekennedy@turley.com.

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – In the Deprey family, they're doing a lot more of the normal activities every day as schools are closed as the state tries to halt the spread of COVID-19, according to Ware mom Roxanne Kennedy-Deprey.

Her children, Sebastian, 9, and Penelope, 5, both attend Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School "Both of my kids were shocked



Art projects are big in the Deprey household during these weeks off from school due to the COVID-19 situation and efforts to stop its spread.

and upset when the school was closed," said Kennedy-Deprey. "It seemed very sudden to them. Keeping something of a scheduled "homeschool" routine has helped them a lot in the transition."

They watch educational shows,

take walks, play games and do plenty of arts and crafts projects, she said. They've also picked up trash along the road side as they take walks, so they can improve the town, she said.

She said Tuesday Sebastian's

teacher had the students go to Zoom.com, an online conferencing platform, to try it out before she

Please see **POSTCARDS**, page 6



Turley Publications
courtesy photos

Penelope and Sebastian Deprey with the trash they picked up on the side of the road in Ware.

Towns change election dates, town meeting

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

REGION – Ware, Warren and Hardwick will be taking advantage of a bill passed this week allowing towns to postpone their local elections to a later date, in light of current COVID-19 concerns. The bill was signed into law by Governor Charles D. Baker late Monday.

At Ware's SelectBoard meeting Tuesday night, selectmen agreed to postpone the election, which would have been held on Monday, April 13, to an as yet to be determined date.

SelectBoard member Nancy Talbot, who is also the Town Clerk, said she had concerns for election workers as well as the public. The Board of Registrars will also meet to postpone the election and Talbot will make a recommendation on a future date to selectmen. Selectmen also briefly discussed the possible need to change Town Meeting to a later date.

Warren selectmen also voted

Tuesday night to postpone town elections and Town Meeting to June 16 and June 23, respectively.

Hardwick selectmen voted Monday to postpone the Town Election to Saturday, May 9, which will include a debt exemption question on much-needed sewer projects. The town is going ahead with its Special Town Meeting on April 8 at Hardwick Elementary School, which would tie up several financial items, but also seek approval of sewer upgrades and repairs.

The Senate also adopted an order postponing the special elections in the 2nd Hampden & Hampshire and Plymouth & Barnstable districts, which were set to be held on March 31, until May 19. The House of Representatives took similar action on special elections in the 37th Middlesex and 3rd Bristol districts, moving those elections to June 2.

The new law passed yesterday would allow towns with elections

Please see **ELECTION**, page 2

Veterans Council throws dinner

Vets, first responders honored by town

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARREN – A potential donation of turkey and stuffing became the basis for an appreciation for veterans as well as first responders in town, totaling 112 guests, on Saturday, March 7, at the Warren Senior Center.

Warren residents Jim and Karen Dusty oversee a food bank in Worcester through their church, and contacted Veterans Council Chairperson Rebecca Acerra to see if turkeys and stuffing could be donated to the town.

"When speaking with my husband, Tony, that evening he told me to make sure that I invited Jim and Karen to the dinner so that is how it expanded to first responders too, as Jim is an EMT on the Warren Fire Department," Acerra said. Once she invited the Dustys, it was a short move to expanding it to all first responders.

"My family has had a long history to both the Police and Fire departments in town as my grand-



Turley Publications courtesy photo

Veterans, first responders and their families were treated to an appreciation dinner on March 7 at the Warren Senior Center.

father, William "Pit" McComb, was a police officer, forest fire warden and assistant fire chief, and my brother, Russ Anderson, was on the Warren Fire Department for 25 years and now my daughter, Christina Bonneau, is a call EMT and my son-in-law, Matt Bonneau, began his firefighting career in

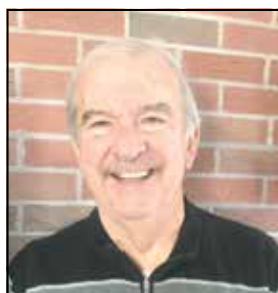
Warren. He is employed full-time in Sturbridge as a firefighter/paramedic, however, he answers every call he can when he's home in Warren."

Acerra said residents too often take first responders' service for

Please see **DINNER**, page 9

Inside this edition:

Calendar	2	Police/Fire	10
Viewpoints	4	Classifieds	11
Obituaries	5		
Sports	7		
Public Notices	9		



POLITICS

Ware selectmen candidates talk

Page 3



COMMUNITY

Scout Blue and Gold Banquet

Page 6



SPORTS

Lusitano Club honors all-stars

Page 7

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OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



community corner

ekennedy@turley.com

THE FOLLOWING EVENTS ARE CANCELED.

YOGA AND MEDITATION Let the spring begin – within with yoga and meditation on Thursday March 26, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Warren Senior Center, 2252 Main St in West Warren. Melt the winter tension away and welcome the new season. Enjoy simple yoga stretches and moves that anyone can do, bringing greater flexibility, range of motion, balance, stamina and energy. Learn to quiet your mind and find inner peace through an easy style of meditation. Yoga and meditation are clinically tested tools for reducing stress and improving health. Taught by Phil Milgrom, RYT, CSYT, CSMT, Co-Director of The Centered Place in Warren. For ages 15 and up. Please bring a mat and blanket.

Please call the Warren Public Library to register at 413-436-7690 or email warren-publiclibrary@hotmail.com. This event is free and is sponsored by the Warren Public Library with a grant from the Warren Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

POLISH FOOD AND BAKE SALE will be held at St. Mary’s Church hall, South

Street, on Saturday, March 28. Polish food will be available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and include frozen pierogi, golombki, kapusta, kielbasa and rye bread. These are for take-out only. The bake sale is being sponsored by the All Saints and St. Mary’s Rosary Sodality and will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come and enjoy a free cup of coffee along with some delicious pastry for eat-in or take-out. Contacts for food sale are Sylvia at 413-436-9268 or Diane at 413-967-5207.

CONCERT Friends of the Stone Church will present brilliant soprano Maria Ferrante and award-winning pianist Ivan Gusev in Americana: Songs We Love on Sunday, March 29, at 3 p.m., at the Stone Church, 283 Main St. in Gilbertville.

ART EXHIBIT The Hardwick Historical Society is hosting a two-day art exhibition featuring local artist, Frank J. Bly on April 4 and April 5, from noon to 4 p.m., at the Hardwick Town House on the Hardwick Common. This is a rare opportunity to meet him and see some of his famous Quabbin paintings and other of surrounding towns. The Historical Museum will be also open for viewing during the event. This event is free and open to the public. It is handicapped accessible for those in need.

Are You Old News?



Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.

Email your answers by Monday at noon to ekennedy@turley.com.

Sheryl Adamczyk guessed correctly that last week's photo from an April 1991 issue of the Ware River News featured then-candidate David Flanagan.

Another blast from the past in April 1991, shows a sporting event from the April 18, 1991 edition of the paper. Does anyone recognize the player diving across home plate? If so, please send the answer, with your name, to ekennedy@turley.com.

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Pamela-Jean Gauthier has opened Pamela-Jean's Tailoring & More, at 33 Main St. in Ware, offering sewing, alterations, valet laundry, dry cleaning and pressing.

Turley Publications staff photos by Dan Flynn

Pamela-Jean's Tailoring & More is making personal face masks after a hospital staffer asked her to do so.



New tailoring store offers much more

By Dan Flynn

WARE – After a long hiatus, a familiar face and skill trade is welcomed back onto the Main Street in Ware: Pamela-Jean's Tailoring & More.

"I had been approached by many friends to reopen" said Pamela-Jean Gauthier. "Charlie Lask of Nat Falk was my most inspiring supporter to my reopening."

First opening a store location in Belchertown during the mid 1990s, then opening a second location on Main Street in Ware during the mid 2000s, Pamela

had then taken time off. "But I felt as fewer people have the opportunity to take advantage of a skilled trade like sewing, I wanted to be back for the public." She had learned her skills from her mother, who was a master tailor. "She was my first inspiration and I remember her dedication and passion well," she said. "There are so many types of sewing skills needed, from a simple hand-sewing of a button to that specific finesse of a wedding gown, each project has a dedicated passion."

"My goal is to provide more than just sewing services," she said. "I offer valet laundry, dry cleaning and pressing." With the COVID-19 pandemic happening, her business is considered essential services, offering these laundry services to the public in these challenging times.

Having worked in the nursing field, Gauthier has a heartfelt dedication to the healthcare services field. "My former employee, Sarah, works at Wing Hospital and asked me if I was interested in a project, to sew personal face masks," she said. "A local person on social media had offered to donate materials if someone would take the time to sew personal face masks. This project is one that I take a personal pride in as I understand the efforts and sacrifices these professionals exhibit and truly have need of our support. I am more than willing to help with this cause."

Personal service is a trademark of

"My goal is to provide more than just sewing services. I offer valet laundry, dry cleaning and pressing."

Pamela-Jean Gauthier

Pamela-Jean's Tailoring & More. "I remember one customer who called me frantic, two days before her wedding," she said, "Her wedding dress was just all wrong. I worked through the night and into the next day sewing and performing many alterations to her wedding dress to be ready the way she wanted it for her special day. Her smile was a treasured reward for me, knowing that this dress was so very important to her."

"My goal is to be active in this community and the communities around my business. With everything happening now, it's the knowledge that skill trades are of a value and people will need support from small businesses like mine," Gauthier said. "This current state is a challenge but like everyone else, I am going to be here and am ready to provide my services for my customers."

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CLUES ACROSS
1. As soon as possible
5. Gateway (Arabic)
8. Doctors' group
11. Madder genus of plants
13. A team's best pitcher
14. Ancient Greek sophist
15. Go up
16. Neither
17. Bolivian river
18. Manila hemp
20. Comedienne
21. British School
22. Human reproductive organs
25. Surrenders
30. Dog with long, silky coat and drooping ears
31. Sun up in New York
32. Lead alloy
33. Eastern Asian plant

38. Rapid deployment force (abbr.)
41. Japanese warrior
43. Festivity
45. Interruptions
47. Nonsense (slang)
49. Data mining methodology (abbr.)
50. Calvary sword
55. French river
56. Global business conference (abbr.)
57. Afflicted
59. Con man's game
60. No (Scottish)
61. Jewish spiritual leader
62. Fish
63. Camera term (abbr.)
64. Impudence
67. Dark brown or black

CLUES DOWN
1. A continuous portion of a circle
2. Genus of seabirds
3. Infant's dining accessory
4. Native Americans from Arizona
5. Popular fruit
6. Poisonous plant
7. Scolded
8. Assists
9. Hand (Spanish)
10. Amazon product identifying system (abbr.)
12. Basics
14. Cain and ___
19. Malaria
23. Indicates particular shape
24. Respiratory disease
25. Central Standard Time
26. Imitate
27. Golf score
28. A place to lay your head

29. Three cards of the same suit
34. Not in
35. Human gene
36. Ancient Chinese philosophic concept
37. French river
39. Thinks up
40. Type of geological deposit
41. Helps little firms
42. Area units
44. A device to remove
45. Secret political clique
46. Polite interruption sound
47. Foundation
48. Clare Boothe __, American writer
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. Actor Idris
54. Resistance fighters
58. Speak disrespectfully of

Dog licensing deadline extended to May 1

WARE – Dog licenses are due yearly under state regulations MGL Chapter 140, Section 137. All dogs six months or older must be licensed.

Ware has established that all dog licenses must be purchased prior to April 1 of any year. This year due to the Town Hall being closed to public access as of Wednesday, March 18, until further notice, the licensing time has been extended to May 1, there will be no late fee assessed.

Fees for dog licenses remain the same \$8 for neutered or spayed Dogs and \$10 for males and females.

Proof of the animal's rabies vaccination must be provided at the time of licensing for each dog as well as neutering/spaying, unless the dog has been licensed previously and the rabies vaccination is current and on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Dog licenses must be purchased by mail until further notice as the Town Hall will be closed to the public (due to COVID-19) effective Wednesday, March 18, until further notice, include a check payable to the Town of Ware for the appropriate fee, a self-addressed postage paid envelope and the rabies vaccination certificate for each dog addressed to Town Clerk, 126 Main St., Suite F, Ware, MA, 01082.

If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact the Town Clerk's Office at 413-967-9648, ext. 177.

A silver drop box is also available for customers at the lower level offices of the Town Hall. Put the rabies vaccination certificate, a check made payable to the Town of Ware for the appropriate fee and a self-addressed postage paid envelope inside an envelope addressed to Town Clerk RE: Dog Licensing.

The Library Loft

Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

We are celebrating our
20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons.
Thanks to our wonderful "friends," volunteers and patrons.

HOURS:
Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm • Thurs. 10am - 4pm
Fri. 10am-4pm • Sat. 10am - 4pm

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours.
Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books.
We accept books only in good, clean condition.

For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100

Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library

Tri-Parish Community Church news

NEW BRAINTREE – Like everything in this current world, almost all "normal" daily functions have come to a standstill, including at the Tri-Parish Community Church. Right now, no Church services are planned until Easter, April, 12, at 10 a.m., in the New Braintree Congregational Church. Until then, those who have pledged or want to make a donation to the Church, can send them to the office at P.O. Box 202, 3 Oakham Road, New Braintree, MA, 01531.

However, the Tri-Parish committee did meet on March 18 to discuss future activities at the Church. The plan for the 15th annual plant/bake/tag and craft sale is still going forward for Saturday, May 30, and Sunday, May 31, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Hardwick Town Common. Ten-foot by ten-foot spaces will also be available for anyone wishing to join in for a fee of \$30.

Applications can be obtained by calling the Church office at 508-867-3306. To get further information on what is happening at the Tri-Parish, the website is: triparishcommunitychurch.com.

ELECTION from page 1

scheduled on or before May 30 to move those elections to a later date. Postponed local elections must be held by June 30.

Any ballots printed for the original election date, including absentee ballots already cast, would still be valid for the new election date. Voters who have already cast absentee ballots would not need to vote again.

In addition to clarifying that voters taking precautions related to COVID-19 qualify for absentee ballots, the bill also allows early voting by mail for all elections being held by June 30. Unlike absentee voting, early voting requires no excuse. A voter would be able to submit a written request for an early ballot to their local election office and receive that ballot by mail.

More information about updates to election laws due to COVID-19 may be found on Galvin's website, at www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/covid-19/covid-19.htm.

Candidates for

WARE SELECTMEN

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – There are five candidates for two, three-year terms on the SelectBoard, with two of the candidates having served previously as members of Ware's SelectBoard.

The Ware River News has asked the five candidates to tell readers a little about themselves and answer several questions. Catherine R. Buelow-Cascio, of 95 Church St., John A. Desmond, of 12 Dugan Road, Thomas H. Barnes, of 45 Moriarty Road, Michael R. Bouvier, of 62 Aspen St., and John Joseph Morrin, of 170 Monson Tumpike Road.

Mr. Bouvier did not turn in a biography or answers to the questions.

Since the candidates forum, which was to be held last had to be canceled, the newspaper is hoping to keep the questions going through the election.

If residents would like particular questions asked of the candidates, please send them on to ekennedy@turley.com.



Tom Barnes

My father was in the USAF and I grew up around the world, but Massachusetts has always been home base. I attended both STCC and Westfield State College. When serving in the U.S. Marines Corps Reserves, I was deployed both domestically and globally. I have worked as a machinist, network engineer, statewide project manager and technology director in the Palmer Public Schools. My wife Linda and I have lived in Ware for 14 years, and have two adult children. We are members of the Ware Community Theater and enjoy the town's cultural events.

I currently serve on the Conservation Commission as a member and co-chairman for 13 years. I have been very involved and participated in many town committees, making it a priority to understand the workings of our town government. Working with public boards and their members, town staff members and the public is something I have experience with and enjoy. Since I am retired my schedule is flexible and gives me the opportunity to be available at any time. The Massachusetts State Ethics Board has told me there is no conflict of interest serving on the Conservation Commission and Select Board. I'm a team player.

I am running because I feel I can contribute with an open and honest approach. I am a problem-solver; I will listen to all sides, without prejudice, and make decisions based on the best needs of our citizens. I am interested in our history, where we have been and what we are moving toward, maintaining Ware as place where we can live and thrive. I am committed to leaving our town better off for future generations. My interests are; drinking water quality, open spaces, recharging our downtown, utilizing and preserving our historic mill yard, road and bridge infrastructure, and addressing the challenges and issues facing Ware and our citizens. What makes you the best candidate for a seat on the SelectBoard?

I am passionate about the town of Ware, its citizens, and our his-

tory. It is a beautiful town and truly "Somewhere Worth Seeing." Since I am retired and have a flexible schedule, I will be available at all times. I have worked on a town commission for 13 years, so I am prepared and familiar with the workings of town government; I have established relationships with the department heads and the various town boards. I am a team player, I value input from everyone, and I have a proven background as a municipal project manager.

What do you think is the biggest problem facing Ware?

I believe the biggest problem facing Ware is the 2016 "slum and blight" designation. I feel this is a negative stigma that has been attached to our town. It has upset residents who take great pride in their homes and neighborhoods. It has raised concerns over what it has done to our real estate values. I would like to investigate what the benefits have been; has the town been able to received additional grant money? Has this designation made our community a less desirable place to live? It's time to eliminate this designation if there is no clear benefit.

What do you want to accomplish if elected to the SelectBoard?

My goal is to help Ware thrive. There are a variety of issues I would like to address; Evaluation of the slum and blight designation. Infrastructure improvements including weight limits on our bridges. Ensure everyone with water from our public water supply has clean drinkable tap water. Facilitate the growth and revitalization of our downtown and mill yard, and utilization of empty building such as St. Mary's school. Provide increased youth programs and engagement programs, such as a YMCA, and increase use of Reed Town Pool. I will work as part of a cooperative team towards achieving these goals.

Is there a project the SelectBoard oversee now that you would like to make sure gets finished if you are elected?

The project I want to ensure is completed and fully addressed is the water quality issue in Ware. I have heard from many concerned citizens who are frustrated at paying water bills and receive water that is discolored and undrinkable. I have met with the Department of Public Works Director to educate myself on the water situation and the challenges involved. I have an understanding of what aspects of the project are in process, and what still needs to be accomplished. We can work together to overcome this problem, we are known as "The town that can't be licked!"



Catherine Cascio

My name is Catherine (Kularski) Cascio, and I am running for a seat on the Board of Selectmen. I am married to my husband, Jack, and have two children who were raised and live in Ware. I have two step-grandchildren, with a grand-daughter on the way. My daughter is in the Air Force and my son is a small-business owner.

I was born and raised in Ware,

and have lived here most of my life. I have a bachelor of science degree in physical therapy from UMASS Lowell and an MBA from Anna Maria. I work for a national certified home health care company as a Care Transition Coordinator. I have been in management since my early years, and have owned my own physical therapy business.

I am involved in our church as a lector and Eucharistic Minister. I am a volunteer for various organizations including the USO. I was elected to the Ware BOS in 2008, and have been a member of the Ware Finance Committee. I am fiscally conservative and am registered as an Independent.

My husband and I began a local show called "Meeting after the Meeting," which airs on Channel 15, in which I keep townspeople up to date with BOS meetings, giving my input and opinion, and have guests to discuss the town's 'going's on'.

Why do believe you are the best candidate?

I regularly attend both BOS meetings and Town Meetings, offering my comments and concerns. This has kept me abreast of town business and its pertinent issues. I have engaged in conversation with our local small businesses, hearing their concerns, and I hope to have a stronger voice for them. These are some of the reasons I feel I am best suited to be your candidate as a member of the BOS. As a former BOS member, I understand the inter-relationship of the BOS and the town manager.

What do you think is the biggest problem facing Ware?

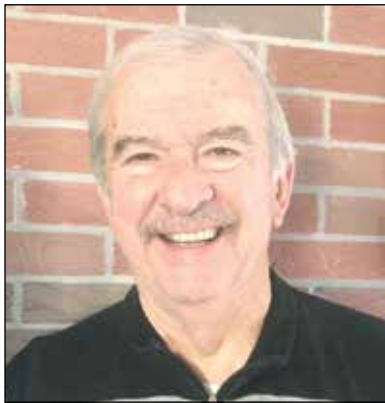
One of the biggest problems facing Ware is "perception;" a negative perception of the town from both residents and non-residents alike. Feeding into this negative perception are the Main Street buildings' issues, the ongoing drug problems, the frustrations of our small business owners and the taxpayers that they are not being heard. I hear from so many Wariates that "Ware isn't like it used to be."

What do you want to accomplish if elected?

The Main Street project should move along with the least disruption to small businesses and residents through a united effort. Advocating for our local businesses and responding to their needs is crucial for downtown success. Setting up procedures and policies for employee and resident complaints is important. I have personally heard of fear of retaliation as a major reason so many people are frustrated yet fearful of coming forward. Fear must never be the case for not bringing issues forward. I will work to set up a climate to change that perception. Productive, efficient departments should be the norm, and department heads need to be accountable to taxpayers and their budgets. I will set expectations high, with regular reviews and accountability. I also advocate plans for better follow thru on projects. Too often issues are discussed at BOS meetings, with lack of follow through. I want to set up a purposeful meeting tool that directs projects through to completion before signed off the BOS agenda.

Is there a project you want to see completed?

The project I would most like to oversee would be the Main Street project, to ensure the best outcome with the least disruption and disturbance. Being an eye and ear for our small businesses will be crucial so they can remain open. The BOS has an important role to play in working closely with the town manager. Together I feel the perception of the "Town that can't be licked" could be reinvigorated, with a re-newed sense of "Ware, the way it used to be," Ware we all had pride in saying Ware we lived.



John Desmond

I am running for selectmen because I believe that my experience as a two-term selectman and three-term member of the Board of Health will help me guide the Board of Selectmen in the operation and direction it takes.

There are many areas of concern that need to be addressed by this SelectBoard. It is in my view that the most critical is how the town should spend its money. The following issues are pressing matters that are concerning:

The town manager has stated that there is a permanent deficit between revenues and expenses in our town budget. Our town's current budget deficit was also verified by a study conducted by the Mass Department of Revenue.

As selectmen one of my priorities will be to access how the town is spending its revenue. For example, we currently spend \$3,800,00 annually for health and welfare insurance for town employees. It should be noted that health and insurance costs will continue to rise. The amount is more than the entire budget of the DPW (\$800,00) Fire Department (\$1,000,000) and Police Department (\$1,500,000).

The second area of concern is the condition of the roads in town. We currently have a pavement management plan prepared by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. The most cost-effective action made by the commission is to maintain roads in good condition from deterioration. The second recommendation made is that the town put aside a significant amount of money for maintenance and repair of roads. Currently these recommendations are not being followed and therefore the roads in Ware will continue to deteriorate without funding.

These are two examples of the need for the town of Ware and SelectBoard to prepare a critical review of the operations of the town of Ware and a financial forecast for the next five years. This action could result in a relocation of resources as well as significant changes to the services provided to the Ware taxpayers. Both the report from the Mass Department Revenue and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission are public documents and should be on file in the Selectmen's Office.

In conclusion, for those that may not know me, I am a former graduate of Ware High School, Franklin Pierce University and received my master's of science degree in Engineering under a fellowship granted by the U.S. Public Service. I have had a 32-year career with the Commonwealth of Mass Department of Environmental Protection Agency.



John Morrin

I'm John Morrin, I'm excited to be running for Selectman in Ware, and I'm asking for your vote. My wife, Deborah, and I have been raising our boys, John Jr. and Nick, here for almost 20 years, and love being involved with our community. I'm a veteran, and a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, where I have worked as a licensed Journeyman Electrician and Master Electrician for many years, and still teach at our apprentice school in Springfield. I managed big-box stores like A.C. Moore and D.S.W. Shoes in the 90s when I was fresh out of college. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree from Central Connecticut State University, and a master's degree from Mount Holyoke College, have been an Electrical Instructor at Dean Technical High School, an elementary teacher in Holyoke, and am currently a Special Education Teacher in the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District.

I'm in my third productive term as a Ware Park Commissioner, where I have been privileged to work with a great team of Commissioners for the benefit of so many organizations and folks in town. I have been the Senior Youth Ministry Director at St. Mary's, and have volunteered for years at many events sponsored by the church. I've done many volunteer electrical jobs for Habitat For Humanity, the parks, civic organizations, and the town. My most frustrating and joyful times have come as a baseball coach here in town. I've coached fall ball, recreation U12(World Champs), travel, U14(NEYSA, JLS, and State Champs), and U16(JLS Champs), and Junior Varsity at the High School. I learned more motivating, nurturing, and coaching children and teenagers than in any school I ever attended, or job I've ever had.

What makes you the best candidate?

I love staying busy doing things with and for the folks of Ware, and I believe that all of these experiences have prepared me well to represent you as your Selectman. To ask a question or see my positions, check out and like my page on Facebook: John Morrin's Selectman Campaign. I want to be your selectman because I see how much needs to be done, I think I can be a positive, organized force

on the board, and I'm ready to be responsive to the voters and work with everyone to get things fixed.

What is the biggest problem facing Ware?

The biggest problem the town is facing right now is the Covid-19 Virus. "We will all get through this together" means that those of us with more should help those with less. Many of us will be fine financially, but many who lost their paychecks will not. We need to start planning now how we can help folks who will be running out of everything, especially food. The town management should have a plan in place TODAY that spells out where we can get food and supplies, how we can get them to those in need, and who is going to be there to get it done. We should have a list of volunteers who want to help. When those plans are communicated to the public, people don't panic, and we can get through it.

What would you like to accomplish?

I would challenge our departments to find ways to be more organized and findcreative ways to save tax dollars. The first question should be "Will this cost the taxpayers?" and if the answer is yes, find a way that will not. I'm for spending when we have to, but I won't stand for wasting money, and am normally opposed to raising taxes. I personally have never voted for an override. I would also want to see the board, Town Manager, and department heads more focused. The burnt-out house still standing is unacceptable. The argument about what a moratorium meant is another example; the language should have been thoroughly discussed before submitted for a vote. School regionalization is another example. The BOS should have directed exactly what information was being requested. Because it wasn't, we wasted at least \$10,000 and plenty of time.

Is there a project the SelectBoard oversee now that you would like to make sure gets finished if you are elected?

In normal times my focus will be on the water quality problem in town. We know what the problems are, so we need to be laser-focused on how to fix them. It feels as though the problems are so large and expensive that the town is paralyzed to do anything. We need to have an all-out effort to fix anything that we can in sequential order, as soon as we can, and continue to look for new revenue or grants from anywhere. The progress on the actual repair and how the overall plan is progressing should be updated at every BOS meeting. It's that important to our citizens, town image, house prices, and tax base.

Originally scheduled for April 13, the Town Election has been postponed to a new date that will be chosen in the near future.

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EDITORIAL

Coronavirus is a real threat

Americans don't like being told what to do, and the government's been doing an awful lot of telling lately.

Don't eat out. Don't send your kids to school. Don't have a party. Don't watch a parade.

The past week has seen a massive upheaval in almost every aspect of almost every American's life — home, work, recreation. None of it has been welcome. But — to repeat the phrase we all hated when we heard it as children from our parents, our doctors and our teachers — it's for our own good. The point is to protect us from the coronavirus.

The coronavirus that quarantined an entire metropolis in China.

The coronavirus that shut down essentially the whole country of Italy.

The coronavirus is not a possibility or a far-off fear. It's a real thing that has been killing thousands of people around the world. It's here now, and the only way we can stop it is to keep it from jumping from person to person. And the only way to do that is to keep people away from people.

A little skepticism about the claims made by politicians is a healthy thing, especially when they're trying to justify restrictions on freedom of movement and commerce. But this isn't a good time to take a chance on the experts being wrong. Everyone in a position of power is saying the same thing — the coronavirus is a real threat. Federal, state and local officials. Doctors and public health agencies. Business leaders. Politicians from both major parties.

That the American death toll hasn't yet reached the crisis levels of Italy or China is not a testament to some inherent superiority or hardness of the American public. It's merely a function of the fact that the coronavirus infected those countries earlier. Public health officials aren't responding to actual deaths on our shores. They're looking at how the disease has spread in other countries, and trying to stop it from spreading that way here.

What can you do?

- * Practice good hygiene — wash hands frequently, cough into your sleeve rather than hand, disinfect frequently touched surfaces and items in the home.
- * Stay home. Work from home, learn from home, eat at home. Shop online and have items delivered. Read books and watch television rather than going out for entertainment. Don't host or attend parties.
- * Limit contact between elderly people and young people. Senior citizens are especially susceptible to Covid-19, and children can carry the virus without showing any symptoms.
- * If you begin to experience a fever or flu-like symptoms, call your doctor.

Unfortunately, by the time symptoms appear, the patient has already been carrying — and spreading — the disease for as long as two weeks. Any of us could be infected right now and not realize it, so it's important that all of us work to halt its spread, whether we "feel sick" or not.

The government is forcing some of these choices on us. Schools, senior centers and increasingly town halls are closed. Public gatherings of large numbers of people have been banned. Restaurants are closed for all but take-out and delivery.

Some of these lifestyle changes are easy. Some are difficult. Some may even be annoying or burdensome.

But every one of them is better than getting infected. And every one of them is better than getting your grandparents, your parents, or your elderly neighbors infected, too.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to ekennedy@turley.com.



Paula Ouimette, the author's daughter, drew this rusty blackbird.

In My Backyard

By Ellenor Downer

Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the sighting a rusty blackbird in Lee. The rusty blackbird is about nine inches long with black feathers. It has a pale yellow eye. The male is black overall and the female is dark gray and may have brown edges to wing feathers. The rusty blackbird has a shorter tail and longer bill than the Brewer's blackbird.

In winter, the male rusty blackbird has feathers edged with rusty brown on head, back and wings. The rump is black. The female in winter has buffy under parts and eyebrow with rusty back and gray rump. Both the males and females tend to be rustier

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 5

Compost in the making

We have all been spending a lot of time at home, and for good reason. It feels great to get caught up on all of the tasks around the house that have been put on the back burner. One of those jobs that I've been dreading is cleaning out the chicken coop. But alas, this past Saturday my oldest daughter and I got the job done. When faced with the challenge of what to do with the spent hay we had the perfect solution: start a compost pile!

It's easier than you might think to make your own compost. Most of us have an adequate amount of kitchen scraps and yard waste on hand to generate enough for a small garden. There are numerous books on the subject that go into amazing detail on what to include and what not to include in your compost pile. Simply speaking, your goal is to combine nitrogen-rich ingredients and carbon-rich ingredients together so that they decompose to form compost.

Think of yard waste and garden debris in terms of "green" for nitrogen and "brown" for carbon. Grass clippings, kitchen waste and freshly fallen leaves and weed plants (none with seeds, please) are considered green,

whereas pine needles, dried corn stalks and dried leaves are in the brown category. Make alternating layers of these ingredients to form a pile at least three feet tall by three feet wide. Add a shovel full of finished compost or garden soil to the pile every now and then to inoculate it with beneficial bacteria and fungi.

Once you have completed the layering process you can either let it sit a year until next spring, called "lazy man's compost," or tend to it on a regular basis and end up with the finished product in a couple of months or less. This will involve watching the pile's temperature and turning it when temperatures drop so that it heats up again and again until decomposition is complete. At this stage, it should be dark in color and crumbly in texture and have an earthy, inoffensive odor.

An annual addition of compost does wonders for the garden. Not only are you increasing its fertility, you are improving its structure. If your soil is on the sandy side, compost works to bind aggregates together to hold more moisture. Amazingly enough, it has the opposite effect on soils with a high clay content; they are better able to drain thanks to compost. There is even some evidence that



Roberta McQuaid

plant diseases are reduced by its integration into the soil.

Most experts agree that for an established garden, one-half to one inch of compost spread on the surface and mixed into the top few inches of soil, is all that is necessary to maintain status quo. I've had good luck incorporating a shovel full of compost, a sprinkling of lime and balanced organic fertilizer into the planting hole for most vegetable transplants. Generally they require no additional fertilizers for the remainder of the growing season. For vegetables sown in place in the garden, just mix those same ingredients into the top couple of inches of soil prior to planting your seeds. Even perennial borders and shrub beds benefit from an application of compost. If you don't have the time to scratch it into the soil, simply apply it to the surface around your plants and let the earthworms do the work for you!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

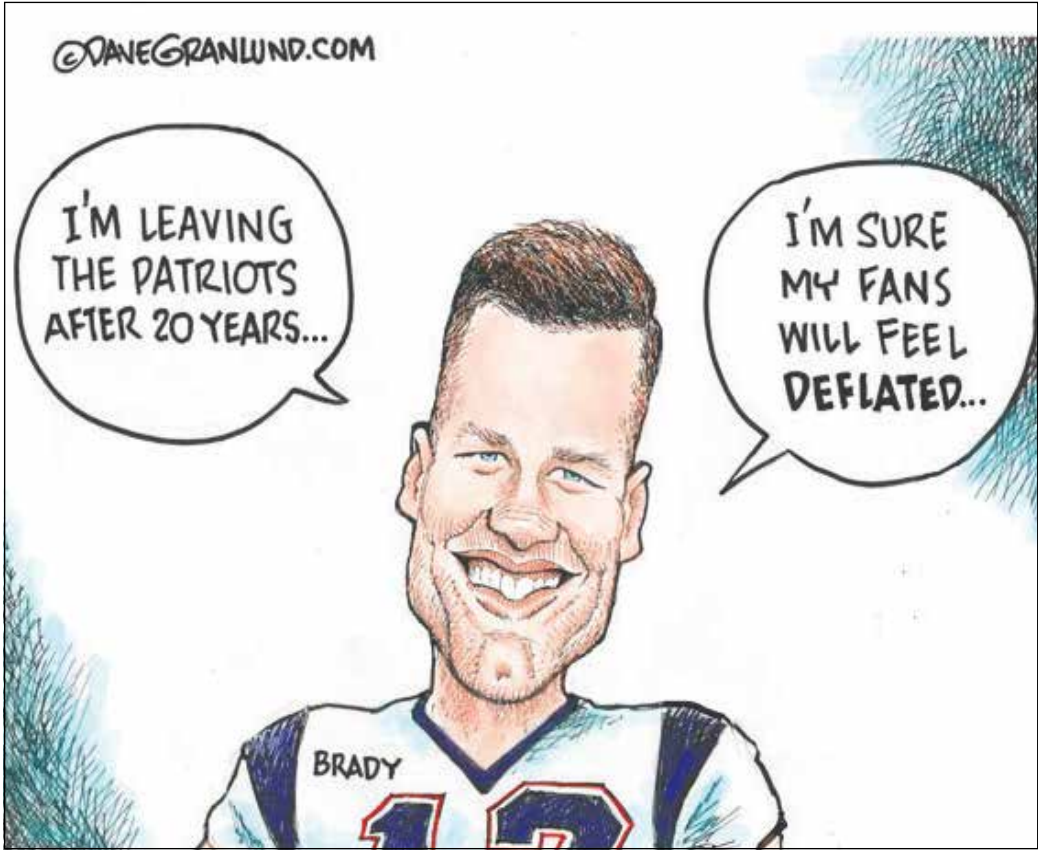
SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Using IRA instead of claiming Social Security

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I am currently unemployed and drawing funds from my IRA. I am 62-years-old. My financial adviser instructed me to not take Social Security because once I do, the percentage of increase would stop. He said to wait until the benefits increased to the point where I could then take Social Security and leave my IRA alone. Does that seem right? Also, I have applied for Social Security Disability benefits and have been rejected, but I am currently appealing that decision. Is my next step a lawyer? If so do you have any recommendations? *Signed: Befuddled*

Dear Befuddled: If you take your Social Security benefits at age 62, your payment will be cut by about 27.5 percent from what it would be at your full retirement age of 66 ½. If you wait, your Social Security payment when you claim it will have grown for each month you delay. You only get 100 percent of the SS benefit you have earned from a lifetime of working when you reach your full retirement age (FRA). The rate of benefit growth before you reach your FRA is a bit more than 6 percent for each year you wait, so I expect that your financial advisor compared that guaranteed growth to the interest you are receiving on your IRA and concluded that waiting to claim a higher Social Security benefit for the rest of your life is a better deal. Provided you are in good health, that seems like a prudent suggestion. And just so you are aware, if you delay claiming Social Security beyond your FRA, you'll earn an additional 8



percent for each year you further delay, up to age 70 when your benefit would be about 75 percent more than it will be if you take it now.

Regarding your disability appeal, I cannot recommend a specific attorney, but I suggest you seek one who specializes in Social Security Disability Insurance claims. SSDI attorneys must adhere to federal law and they are limited in what they can charge you. Usually that limit is 25 percent of whatever back SSDI benefits they can secure for you (paid from those back benefits) to a maximum of \$6,000. There should be no charge for an initial consultation, and you shouldn't be required to pay anything unless they win your case for you. The easiest way to find someone to assist you is to do a search for "SSDI attorneys near me" and then do some initial research on your search results before selecting. You'll be able to judge the strength of your SSDI appeal by whether the SSDI attorney accepts your case — they'll only accept

your case if they believe they can win and be compensated for their efforts. Only you can judge if engaging an attorney is a wise idea at this point. You still have multiple SSDI appeal levels available to you, and an SSDI attorney can be engaged at any point you choose.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor with AMAC.

SOCIAL DISTANCING:

Most important tool in stopping spread of COVID-19

SPRINGFIELD — Federal health officials are concerned that Americans are not listening to the warning when it comes to "social distancing" and preventing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

As of March 15, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommended that for the next eight weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the country. Examples of large events and mass gatherings include conferences, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings and other types of assemblies.

"I can't stress enough the importance of social distancing in our efforts to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19," said Dr. Armando Paez, chief, infectious diseases, Baystate Medical Center.

What exactly is "social distancing?"

Social distancing, the term often used by infectious disease and control specialists and public health officials, means staying away from other people, in other words, avoiding crowds, and maintaining a personal distance — approximately six feet — from others when possible.

It is the close contact between individuals, whether at home, at work, or out in the public that has resulted in the World Health Organization now referring to COVID-19 as a pandemic, said Dr. Paez.

"Maintaining a distance, especially from

someone who is sick and is coughing and sneezing, is important because when that person coughs or sneezes, they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain the COVID-19 virus or any other virus. If you are too close to them, then you can breathe in the droplets and become infected. Equally

important is the fact that you could be infectious, yet have no symptoms, and spread the disease to others," said Paez.

"We have now begun to see mass closings of amusement parks, bars and restaurants, movie theaters, religious services, schools, some stores and many other measures, including companies and organizations recommending employees work from home, all with the intent to prevent the spread of COVID-19," he added.

According to the CDC, older people are twice as likely to have serious illness from the novel coronavirus and they are advising people over 60 with underlying health problems to "stay at home as much as possible." That means keeping a social distance by avoiding air travel, going to movie theaters, attending family events, and shopping at crowded malls, for example, which applies to everyone — not just seniors.

"What we know from researchers is that the fatality rate is likely to be higher among older adults. As we age, our immune system weakens in its ability to fight off viruses and infections. Also, chronic health conditions

such as heart disease, diabetes, pulmonary disease and others make it harder for their already weakened bodies to cope with the additional strain placed on them by COVID-19," said Paez.

One powerful example of the importance of social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic is the Biogen meeting held in Boston, which became the epicenter of the Massachusetts outbreak as the virus spread at an alarming rate through the two-day conference. Yet an even more telling example back during the 1918 flu pandemic, as documented in Smithsonian Magazine, is when Philadelphia went ahead with a scheduled World War I parade in September of that year. There were 200,000 people lining city streets and within three days, the inevitable happened, every hospital bed in the city's 31 hospitals was occupied with a flu patient.

You might even want to keep a social distance from your doctor's office, noted Dr. Paez.

"If you are going to see your doctor for a routine checkup, you might want to check with the office first. They might suggest a later date when the virus is under control, unless your doctor is seeing you for an ongoing condition and needs to see you in person, or you have developed concerning symptoms that might require a visit to the office," said Paez.

Social distancing also means reconsider-

Please see **COVID-19**, page 5

WARE RIVER NEWS



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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest column between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

2020 Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

Nonprofit continues to help pets during the COVID-19 pandemic

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Second Chance Animal Services is committed to keeping the doors of their three Community Veterinary Hospital open for pets with nowhere else to turn. As CDC recommendations heightened last week, Second Chance hospitals doubled efforts to minimize exposure so they could continue caring for pets that needed them.

By Monday, as schools made plans to close, so did the other veterinary care options provided through local schools that offer veterinary care at reduced rates for those in need.

CEO Sheryl Blancato has followed the flow of directives from local, state and federal officials to help combat the COVID-19 pandemic. She knows how important it is to keep the doors open. “We founded our first hospital because many pet owners had nowhere to turn for veterinary care they could afford. Now our three hospitals are carrying the caseloads of other area hospitals that have already suspended operation.”

Monday, Second Chance began putting additional restrictions in place to help mitigate the spread of the virus. Currently pet owners are met in the parking lot where they wait while their pet is seen. Doctors and owners conduct the visit via phone, and the pet is returned to the car along with any medications if needed. Last Thursday was the last day volunteers were able to help care for animals at Second Chance’s Adoption Center in East Brookfield. On Friday, the veterinary hospitals suspended walk-in vaccine clinics and began limiting spay/neuter surgeries to conserve supplies and allow for more critical emergency surgeries as critical



Turley Publications courtesy photo
Link is a 5-year-old male cat waiting to be adopted at the Second Chance Adoption Center in East Brookfield. Link came to Second Chance with entropion a painful eye condition, which needed surgery, which he received. He has come a long way and loves attention, playing and lounging around.

supplies are now on backorder across the country. “We are working rapidly on some innovative ways to help our client’s pets most in need as we prepare for future developments,” said Blancato. “We have emergency plans in place for our adoption center as well. Adoptions continue but with significant restrictions that only allow one family at a time to see pets, with cleaning in between. This is helping to find homes for our pets, who have already been through so much, while keeping people safe.” Last week the nonprofit announced the postponement of several vaccine clinics and their 21st annual Dinner Auction

originally scheduled for March 28. The major fundraiser, which provides critical funding for all programs, has been rescheduled for May 9, but hope is dwindling that the event will be able to take place at that time. Blancato knows she and her staff won’t be getting much sleep in the days ahead as they work to find new ways to continue to help. “My heart is breaking for everyone who has been and will be affected by this pandemic,” she said. “We have to do what we can for the animals who might otherwise suffer.” She has already seen an increase in emails and calls from pet owners worried about being able to afford their pet in these uncertain times and knows that will increase in the months to come, adding more strain to an already impossible situation, she said.

Anyone who would like to help by making a donation, can go to the Second Chance Facebook page or its website at www.secondchanceanimals.org. Donations can also be mailed to Second Chance Animal Services, 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

Second Chance is a non-profit 501c3 tax exempt organization that began in 1999 in East Brookfield and relies solely on donations from grants to operate. The organization operates an adoption center in East Brookfield, Community Veterinary Hospitals in North Brookfield, Springfield, and Worcester. Second Chance helps over 40,000 pets a year through adoption, spay/neuter, veterinary care, community outreach, educational outreach programs, training, and a pet food pantry.

Quilt show to be held May 2 and 3 canceled

SPRINGFIELD – A quilt show originally to be presented by the Pioneer Valley Quilters on Saturday, May 2 and 3 has been canceled. The group hopes to hold one next year. To learn more about the group’s website at www.pvquilt.org.

COVID-19 from page 4

ing how we greet one another in social situations. “The handshake is out, at least for now. Many people over the years have already become more accustomed to saying, ‘I’m not shaking hands because I have a cold.’ But, we have to take that one step further and not shake anyone’s hand, even if you’re healthy. Handshaking results in transferring viruses and bacteria from one person to another, and that means the new coronavirus,”

BACKYARD from page 4

and buffer in their first fall. Rusty blackbirds feed on the ground and in very shallow water. They eat insects, crustaceans, fish, grain and weed seeds. The female lays four to five pale, greenish eggs with dark marks in a nest of grass and moss, and lines it with finer materials. They build the nest in a shrub or tree two to 20 feet above the ground. Rusty blackbirds form huge winter flocks with other blackbirds and starlings. They winter in woods and fields near water and summer in spruce bogs and wet woods. There song is a squeaky “chugalasqueek” and a “chek” call. Other recent Massachusetts Audubon Society sightings included a snow goose in Cheshire on March 6. On March 10, sightings included a black Guillemot (Arctic subspecies), a black

Guillemot (tropical subspecies, in Provincetown; a clay-colored sparrow and 11 chipping sparrows in Eastham and at Race Point, Provincetown – a Pacific loon, short-eared owl, two common Murres, 500 razorbills, a glaucous gull and 16 Iceland gulls.

More red-winged blackbirds

I’ve seen more red-winged blackbirds. When I took a walk to the beaver pond on the edge of my hayfield this past weekend, I heard the red-winged blackbirds singing “okaleee.” Their presence and song is one of the signs of spring. Although some robins spend the winter in this area, I am now seeing more robins in yards and fields. I had a lone robin in my yard earlier this week. I also saw hooded mergansers on a pond in New Braintree.

Black bears

Black bears out of their winter dens. An Oakham couple sent photos of a black bear at their bird feeder station eating seeds. I put a small amount of seeds and shelled peanuts in my tray feeder every morning. Blue jays, red-winged blackbirds, tufted titmice, black-capped chickadees, white-breasted nuthatches, downy woodpeckers and juncos wait for me to fill it. The gray squirrels and an occasional red squirrel finish what the birds don’t get. Hopefully, if a bear wanders into my yard, the seeds will be gone.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100 or emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com.

Bonnie R. Robinson

HARDWICK – Bonnie Robinson, a life-long resident of Hardwick, passed away on Monday, March 16, 2020, at the age of 75.



Bonnie was born in 1945 and grew up on her family’s dairy farm, where she lived for the majority of her life before moving up the hill to her beloved “little house.” As a child, she was a bit of a daredevil, climbing anything, including curtains and onto the top of the clothesline (much to her mother’s dismay). After graduating from Hardwick High School in the class of 1963, she attended Westfield State College before she began working at Ludlow Paper. Bonnie found her true calling when she switched careers and in 1986 became a paraprofessional at Hardwick Elementary school, where she was affectionately known as Miss Bonnie.

Throughout her life, Bonnie enjoyed traveling, cross-country skiing, camping, reading, volunteering, stenciling, cooking and listening to music, especially Elvis. One of her greatest joys was caring for the children in her life. She babysat for children in town from the time she was a teenager until she was well into her sixties. She especially enjoyed her time spent with her many nieces and nephews.

Bonnie joins her parents Raymond and Dorothy Robinson, her much-beloved sisters, Sandy Harder and Betty Jo Kelly, and her brother-in-law, Tony Harder. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Judy and Dick Legrand, of South Yarmouth, her brother and sister-in-law, Raymond and Pamela Robinson, of Hardwick, and her brother-in-law, Ned Kelly, of Hardwick. She also leaves 15 nieces and nephews and their families, including more than 20 great-nieces and nephews. She will forever be remembered by her boys and their families, Waylon Comerford, Willie Comerford, and his wife, Susan, and their children, and Wade Comerford and his wife, Kelly, and their

Death notice

Robinson, Bonnie R.
Died March 16, 2020
Celebration of Life at a later date
Charbonneau Funeral Home, Ware

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

children to whom she was fondly Grandma Bonnie. Her family would like to thank the wonderful staff at CareOne for their dedicated care of Bonnie. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations in memory of Bonnie can be made to Jo’s Jackets, P.O. Box 192, Hardwick, MA 01037, www.josjackets.org/donate or the Sandra/ Tony Harder Memorial Scholarship at Old Saybrook Education Foundation, c/o Sally Ann Lee, 22 Fox Hill Road, Old Saybrook, CT, 06472 or www.oldsaybrookeducationfoundation.org/fundraising. Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., in Ware, is assisting her family with arrangements. An online guest book is available at charbonneauafh.com.

Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship applications available

WARE – Applications for the Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship are now available at high school guidance offices. The committee will award the Michael H. Deslauriers scholarship to a graduating senior residing in the

town of Ware, regardless of the school district they attend. To apply for this scholarship, a copy of the student’s school transcript and a completed application, which is available at area school guidance offices, must be submitted by May 1.

Please mail the application to Ware Amvets Post 2577, C/O Richard Rucki, 8 First Ave., Ware, MA, 01082

EMERGENCY from page 1

Although Planning and Community Development Director Rebekah DeCoursey said the items were not listed in importance and selectmen were free to share what their priorities were, they declined to approve it. Whitney said until “a more thought-out plan” was presented to selectmen and the other departments had gone over it and shared their concerns, selectmen would not approve it. SelectBoard member Keith Kruckas said during previous hearings about parking and driving conditions on some downtown streets, it came to light that some of the conditions, such as narrowing the streets, came about to meet grant requirements. Those conditions have led to parking and travel issues on High and other streets, and due to that the DPW should take a look at the priorities first.

SelectBoard member Tracy Opalinski asked about a sidewalk project included in the plan, which would have a traffic island on West Street, an area that sees a number of pedestrian and motor vehicle accidents. She questioned whether a sidewalk attached to the bridge would be a better option, but price might preclude such an option, DeCoursey said. Town Manager Stuart Beckley said it would work to get the departmental considerations and

then bring it back to selectmen. Town manager update Beckley told the board that the downtown redesign project contractors, Ludlow Construction, had been in town marking the street as needed, many MassDOT projects had been temporarily halted due to the COVID-19 conditions. It is unclear if that will affect the Main Street project, he said. There was a preconstruction meeting last week on the Barnes Street disinfection pipe loop project, which will increase the town’s water flow and quality, and that project should begin in April. Palmer Paving may open for the season soon, he said, due to the warmer weather, and in that event some road projects will go forward including finishing up the repaving of Spring and Elm streets and Babcock Tavern Road. Another project that will be tackled is the repaving of Longview and Westbrook avenues.

The town is also waiting to hear from the Attorney General’s office about a grant that will help it take down the burnt home at 73 West Main St. Beckley said the town will piece together different sources of money to remove the home, which caught fire in 2015 and could not be rebuilt or torn down because the owner had no house insurance. The town has tried to sell it and it is again entertaining proposals to reuse the property. If a proper re-developer isn’t found

for it, the town will sell it outright, he said. The Fire Department’s inspection team along with police and the Department of Public Works deemed a home at 13 Parker St. to be an unsafe structure. The property was recently taken for tax title and the people living there were evicted due to the structure’s extremely poor condition. Beckley said the town would like to remove the house, as well as the one next to it eventually, and turn the property into additional parking for Veteran’s Park. There might also be funds available from the Massachusetts Historical Commission to help with Town Hall drainage issues, which may taken up at Town Meeting. The town’s health agent and the Board of Health have been working hard to answer a continuous stream of questions from residents about a variety of COVID-19 issues. The town has also sent some town workers home in light of the governor’s stay at home order, he said. Opalinski also announced Beckley is putting together an application process for Curaleaf’s \$15,000 donation to a nonprofit, which was part of the recreational cannabis company’s host agreement with the town. The store recently opened in a West Street shopping store, which also contains Asian Garden and O’Reilly’s Auto Parts.

ACCOUNT MANAGER
START TO \$40K

Staff Development

ACCOUNT MANAGER
START TO \$40K

How to submit photos and news

Readers, local merchants, institutions, municipalities, non-profit groups, and civic organizations are strongly encouraged to send us their hometown news and photos.

- News items and press releases should be sent in an email to the news editor at ekennedy@turley.com as either an MS Word document attachment saved as text only, or pasted directly into your email message screen. Be sure to include who, what, when, where and why in the submission, preferably written in the third person unless it is a first person letter to the editor or guest column.
- Please send photo captions identifying all subjects in your image(s) from left to right. We need first and last name, hometown, title, if applicable, and a brief description of what subjects are doing in the photo.
- Email uncorrected, raw, RGB color digital photos at highest resolution directly off your camera, or sized at least 20 inches wide at 72 resolution, 10 inches wide at 200 resolution. They may be emailed as attachments to ekennedy@turley.com.
- Publicity chairpersons are encouraged to send in news about upcoming fundraising or other calendar events at least three weeks before they take place.

We will respond to all email messages received.

If you don’t have e-mail, please mail these materials to:

80 Main Street, Ware MA 01082

The family of **John J. Midura** would like to express our deepest gratitude to all who reached out to us recently as we grieved the loss of our dad, our dzia dziu. Thank you for the cards, the offers of food and help, the deliveries of flowers and baskets, and the sharing of memories. These expressions of love meant so very much to us. We especially thank the staff at the Holyoke Soldiers Home, your dedication, concern, care, and love are beyond words. Thank you to the Patriot Guard for standing vigil and paying your respects during the wake and funeral. Thank you to American legion Post 123 of Ware for your attendance and show of respect at the funeral as John was honored with full military honors. Thank you to Father Piotr for your words and actions of faith that brought us much comfort. Thank you to the entire staff at Charbonneau Funeral Home for your guidance and professionalism during this difficult time. Thank you also to CJ and Annette from Small Town Catering for providing the delicious food served at the remembrance gathering following the funeral service. As a family member said, the world is a little less funny now that this wonderful man is gone.

Thank you from
John E. Midura
Michael Midura and family Timothy Midura and family
Chris Midura and family

Ware Family Pack 520 hold

Blue and Gold Banquet

WARE — Ware Family Pack 520 held their first Blue and Gold Banquet at Ware High School on Sunday, March 1. Each Cub Scout was recognized for their achievements with the support of family, community leaders and Scout volunteers. After receiving their awards, each den performed a song or a skit. The Lions Den sang and performed “The Littlest Worm,” the Tiger Den performed “Walk the Plank,” and the Bear and Webelos Dens (with the help of Troop 281 Eagle Scout Ryan Donnelly), performed “The Invisible Bench.”

Post Commander of Earle F. Howe American Legion Post 123, John Goulette, was presented the charter from MillTown District Chairman Brian Anders. The pack was presented a Silver “Journey To Excellence” award in recognition of their quality program over the past year. This award recognizes a Cub Scout program, which excels in activities, community service and other Scouting values.

Goulette in turn presented each Scout with an American Legion patch to wear on their uniforms, under the American Flag. He thanked the Cub Scouts for participating in the annual Flag Day Retirement ceremony held at the American Legion Hall on Maple Street.

Other program highlights included a special thank you from the Pack to Ware VFW Post 2577, who had presented the Pack with its Cub Scout flag, and a presenta-

Pack 520 is shown with Assistant Cubmaster Lonny Murphy (back, from left), post commander of Earle F. Howe American Legion Post 123, John Goulette, and Cubmaster Chris Boos at the troop's Blue and Gold Banquet.

tion of special patches to the Cub Scouts from the Ware Boy Scout Troop 281, thanking the Pack for

their participation in the Annual town-wide Scouting Good Turn, “Scouting For Food.”

Members of Pack 520 were awarded special patches for their help during 2019 Scouting For Food Drive, which was held over two weekends in early fall. Working with Ware Boy Scout Troop 281, the Pack helped collect and sort over 9,000 pounds of food to stock the shelves of the Jubilee Cupboard.



Tiger Cub Daniel Comeau presents the pack flag.



The Lions are all smiles as they sing about the slimy surprise they found in their soda straws.

Turley Publications courtesy photos



Lottie Trout “walks the plank” during the Tiger Den’s skit.



Assistant Cubmaster Lonny Murphy presents the Whittling Chip to Bear Quinn Ouimette and Webelo Sadie Ouimette.



Pack leaders from left, are Cubmaster Chris Boos, Den Leader Kristen Murphy, Assistant Cubmaster Lonny Murphy and Den Leader Paula Ouimette.



NOW REOPENED, UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Canterbury Tails Veterinary Clinic reopened in September under the new ownership of Dr. Leah Greenberger, DVM. Dr. Greenberger graduated from Cornell University in 1992 and has since been practicing conventional veterinary and emergency medicine.

The team at Canterbury Tails is looking forward to meeting you and your pet. We hope to provide a pleasant and Fear Free experience to both pets and owners.

40 East Main Street, Ware, MA
413-967-4545
canterburytailsware@gmail.com



Mon., Wed., Thurs. 7:30-6pm, Tues. 12-8pm, Fri. 7:30-12 noon
Every Other Saturday 7:30-12



Penelope and Sebastian Deprey, of Ware, pick up trash along the side of the road as an activity while they are home.



Siblings Penelope Deprey, 5, left, and Sebastian Deprey, 9, who both attend Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School in Ware watch an educational show while they are home during the COVID-19 order that has closed schools and businesses, and has many staying at home.

Turley Publications courtesy photos

POSTCARDS from page 1

begins doing lessons with it.

“His spirits really picked up when he went on there,” she said. “It was supposed to only last 15 minutes so she could be sure it worked, but it ended up lasting 45 minutes. He really thought it was fun.”

She doesn’t think Penelope can really articulate how she feels, but she knows her daughter would like to return to school.

“I’m just trying to keep everything as normal as possible,” she said.

Her husband is still going to work, and the way his office is set up he can keep the proper social distance from other employees, she said. He is also the one who does the shopping.

Kennedy-Deprey said she has investigated grocery delivery services from Stop’N Shop in Belchertown and Wal-Mart in Ware, but they are booked up several weeks in advance, she said.

One of the more difficult aspects has been the lack of time with other family members. “In the spring they usually get to meet their cousins on the weekends at different museums and now that just isn’t possible,” she said. “That’s really different.”

“I can do a few more weeks, but I’m sure everyone is going to get cabin fever eventually,” she said.

SPORTS

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Lusitano Club honors all-stars

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The 31st annual Lusitano Alumni & Fans (LAF) All-Star High School Soccer Player Awards Night was held at the Gremio Lusitano Club in Ludlow on March 8.

The guest speaker was John Gibson, who has been the women's soccer coach for the past 20 years. Gibson, a native of London, England, earned his 200th career victory at Springfield College in the fall of 2015.

One high school soccer player from each of the divisions was selected by the head coaches as the 2019 Player of the Year.

The Division 3 boys Player of the Year is Simba Pelletier from Pope Francis High School.

The Division 3 girls Player of the Year is Juliana Dickinson from Hampshire Regional.

The Division 4 girls Player of the Year is Nora Young from Granby High School.

"It's awesome to have been selected as the Division 4 girl's Player of the Year," Young said. "I wouldn't have been able to receive this award without the help of my teammates and coaches."

Young completed her outstanding high school soccer career with more than 100 career points (Goals & Assists). She was also a member of the Lady Rams varsity basketball team and became the school's



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Caitlin Hess represented Ware girls soccer, a semifinal team, at the LAF awards on March 8.



Photos by Ray Duffy

Tristan Kemp works to pin an opponent at the All States Meet.

Kemp makes New England wrestling championships

By Karen A. Lewis
Sports Correspondent

BARRE - It was an extended season for Quabbin wrestler Tristan Kemp as he competed in four post season tournaments, placing in all of them.

"Tristan had a great showing at the end of the year and fought hard to place so high," said Quabbin wrestling coach Mike Adams.

Leading off with a first at Sectionals, the heavy weight continued his winning ways with a first in the Division 3 States. In the larger pool of wrestlers at All-States, Kemp earned a third-place medal and rounded out his season at the New England Meet with a fourth place showing.

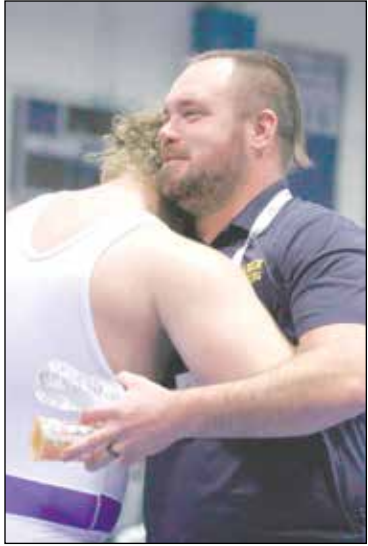
"It's a hard question to answer if I'm happy with how my season went, because everyone wants to get first at every tournament," said Kemp, a junior who will be back for one more year of high school wrestling. "I think I did well, but at the same time I'm not content with the results."

Kemp's drive to always get better is not only limited to wrestling season.

"He trains very hard throughout the year and also in the off season," Adams said. "He is a wrestler who does not only push himself during the season, but also puts in the work out of season in order to be the best he can be when it comes time to the season. He plays other sports, which allows him to compete, which essentially makes him a better athlete when it comes to wrestling season."

During the New England Meet, facing all of the toughest heavyweight wrestlers throughout the six states, Kemp swept all three matches the first day of the tournament, defeating New Hampshire's third, Maine's first and the Rhode Island first, to make it to the semifinals.

On the second day of the tournament, Kemp fell in a tight match to MA's second-place finisher. In the consolation semi-



A congratulatory hug is given to Quabbin heavyweight Tristan Kemp by his coach Mike Adams at the All States Meet recently.

nals, he wrestled and pinned the Massachusetts champion. In the final match to determine third place in the tournament, Kemp had a rematch with Rhode Island first, but unfortunately didn't fare as well as he did in their initial match and fell to his opponent, but still earned the fourth-place berth.

"Tristan is a great athlete, has a great work ethic and determination in order to get better," stated Adams. "He is exactly what a coach wants in terms of work ethic when it comes to improving themselves and wanting to perform at their best. He is a very coachable athlete which is sometimes hard to find in high school athletes."

Plans are currently up in the air for the upcoming national tournament, where Kemp had already earned the All-American status twice when he placed in the top eight the both years he participated.

"Depending on how this year goes and if the tournament runs, Tristan plans on placing this year, hopefully improving his seventh-place finish from last year,"

Please see **KEMP**, page 8

NEWS BRIEF

Valley Wheel Baseball looking for new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for the upcoming 2020 season, which is set to begin near the end of April. The league is seeking players ages 28 and up. Players turning 28 this year are eligible. However, only players 30 and older can pitch. The league plays 15 regular season games with games being held mostly on Sundays with a couple of weekday games thrown in the mix as well as a special Mother's Day Saturday game in early May. The league is built on comradery, fair play, and having a good time with friends. If interested in trying out, go to www.valleywheelbaseball.com. The rules of the league and new player forms can be found on the site. For further information, you can contact the league's commissioner, Jim Nason at wheel12@comcast.net or call him at (413) 433-4308. Tryouts will be taking place in the early weeks of April, weather permitting, with a draft following the tryouts.

Spring sports postponed to April 27

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Following the first postponement of spring sports, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association made a subsequent vote to further delay the start of the spring sports to April 27.

The original start date of spring sports was March 16. It was delayed to March 30 when many schools began cancelling classes for two weeks due to the coronavirus outbreak.

The MIAA's Board of Directors were scheduled to meet again by teleconference this week to continue to monitor the situation. However, the March 20 teleconference revealed some decisions that became necessary by the continued postponement of spring sports.

The MIAA has agreed to only hold a postseason tournament is spring sports begins on April 27. If the MIAA has to make another postponement, then the tournaments in all spring sports will be cancelled and high schools will only play a modified schedule.

Additionally, there will not be any exceptions made to Rule 34, which dictates how many contests a team can have in a given week.

Depending on the sport, the

number of competitions in a week can range from two to four. It modifies in the events makeups are held, such as in the case of baseball or softball.

The board also voted unanimously to waive the 10-practice rule before competition can happen. The board voted to make it seven calendars from the start of practices.

The maximum number of competitions was also modified to 12 for most sports for tournament participation. A team must have at least eight contests for postseason participation.

A typical baseball or softball schedule is normally 18 to 20 games, while lacrosse and volleyball compete in 16 to 18 contests.

According to the board of directors, there is a movement to try and keep student-athletes from missing their senior season, especially after the state tournament was interrupted for basketball and hockey.

"Based on the charge from the BOD to have a spring sport season start date of April 27," the board minutes state. "Discussion regarding a timeline for post-season play took place. The Tournament Management Committee is committed to allow for broad participation at all levels this spring.

Keeping student-athletes connected, involved and engaged has meaning and purpose after the challenges that were faced at the end of the winter season and spring sports in general."

School districts across the state have been ordered closed through April 7. That order was made by Gov. Charlie Baker. Baker has not made a decision or set a deadline to revisit that closure and whether or not to extend it.

The MIAA has posted a fluid document on its website answering questions about the current situation. The document is considered fluid and is updated when new developments occur.

The MIAA has specifically stated that no sports can be practice or played prior to April 27. Additionally, coaches unable to interact with their players before that date.

The MIAA plans to provide guidance on health and safety guidelines for spring sports if there are still concerns about the coronavirus when schools resume competition.

The board was scheduled to meet Tuesday morning with an update to be publish after that meeting.



Photo by Karen A. Lewis

Quabbin's Croix Jenkins gets ready to swing during a varsity game last year.

Pitcher Jenkins set to play at NJIT

By Karen A. Lewis
Sports Correspondent

BARRE - Great things are on the horizon for Quabbin senior Croix Jenkins, who just completed a successful season of basketball and recently signed his letter of intent to play Division 1 baseball at New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), to study mechanical engineering at the honors college.

A well-rounded athlete, baseball was to be the sport that could propel Jenkins to play beyond high school.

"I have played most positions, but currently I am a pitcher and outfielder, I used to be a catcher and third basemen," said Jenkins.

"Pitching is my favorite, I love the constant reoccurring match ups between a batter and a pitcher, and honestly the satisfaction of striking a kid out is one of the greatest feelings."

Quabbin varsity baseball coach Chris Robidoux knew of Jenkins in the middle school – his son Tony and Jenkins are in the same grade and have been teammates.

"I saw Croix had potential as a pitcher very early on, so I had a conversation with him about giving up catching in order to have less wear and tear on his arm," commented Robidoux. "If you watch Croix throw a baseball, it is a very unorthodox style. Being a former pitcher myself and around the game for a long time,

I couldn't think of anyone I had seen or played with, that threw the ball with this style."

Robidoux had no intention of altering Jenkins' style, instead he worked with the young pitcher, focusing on little things to enable him to be able to throw more strikes.

"Croix has always been very coachable, even though he had tremendous success in the past," Robidoux said. "He was open to and understood that he needed to improve and push himself to be successful at the higher level of varsity baseball."

As a freshman on the varsity team, Jenkins used that year



Panther Croix Jenkins gets ready to release a pitch from the mound in a game last spring.

Please see **JENKINS**, page 8

Senior league seeks to start on time

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

While many are hunkering down trying to wait out the coronavirus pandemic that was crippled regular life, and especially the sports world with no competitions of any kind due to the edict from state and federal officials barring gatherings of 25 people or more.

But the Western Mass. Relics, a softball league for senior citizens, is still planning to hold its season-opening jamboree on April 25.

Steve Lepow, the public relations director for the league, says the league has begun booking its field for play, and the Ludlow-based league, which draws plays from all over the region and into Connecticut, claims the field will be available come the start of the season.

“We lease the softball field from Fish and Game and we met the owner and posed the question about having to delay the start of the season,” Lepow said. “He assured us the softball field will be available to us even if the bar is closed because of the coronavirus.”

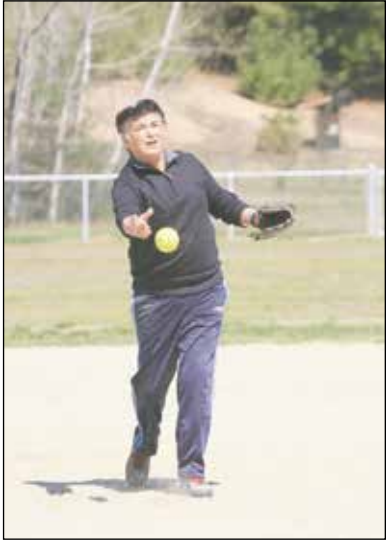
The season starts on April 25 with a jamboree of modified games with the regular season beginning on April 27.

“Full games are supposed to happen on April 27,” said Lepow. “We play seven inning games with two divisions. The silver division is for 50 to 65-year-olds and the gold division is for ages 65 and older. Our oldest player is 89-years-old.”

The purpose of the league is to have fun and build friendships.

Lepow said regardless of where the pandemic stands, the league does plan to forego typical hand-shaking lines post game.

“We will eliminate hand-shaking lines after the game and fist bumps,” said Lepow. “We have safety rules to prevent contact such as two first base bags (orange for the runner and white for the fielder.



The Western Mass. Relics, a senior softball league, play during last season. The softball league is still planning to begin play on April 25 amid coronavirus concerns.

We also have a screen for the pitchers circle to protect the pitcher.”

Lepow says player safety will be a top concern.

“Safety is our number one concern,” said Lepow. In addition to the things to the hand-shaking, we are asking any player who is sick not to come. We are also providing wipes or other sanitizers to use on bats. On our website we have information constantly being added to

keep players advised on what we are doing to ensure safety.”

The commissioner of the league recently emailed players asking them to use common sense and announce that the season is still on.

The league’s only opposition could come at the local, state, or federal level if the games are not exempted from the gathering restrictions that have been made.

Thompson Speedway reschedules events

Icebreaker event moved to May

THOMPSON, Conn. – After conversations with all stakeholders, Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park announced on Tuesday the new date for the 46th annual Liquid Death Icebreaker weekend. The prestigious event is now tentatively set to take place May 15 and 16, including the headlining NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Death To Plastic 150.

Due to the current COVID-19 outbreak, the date is tentative, as the situation is fluid and changes are occurring across the motorsports industry daily. A full schedule for the event will be released once available.

The original date for the Liquid Death Icebreaker, April 3 to 5, was postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak, but Thompson Speedway officials were committed to finding the right date and releasing it to the public as quickly as possible.

“After working with all of the different parties involved, we feel this is the best weekend to run the Icebreaker and kick-off the Thompson racing season,” Terry Eames, the General Manager of Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, said. “Just like the entire racing community, we are disappointed that we can’t start the race season as originally scheduled. However, we will continue to abide by our Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont’s Executive Orders and CDC suggestions during this time. We fully expect to begin the season with the Icebreaker, May 15-16, and look forward to seeing everyone back at the track soon.”

The health of our valued race teams, fans, staff and customers is paramount during the COVID-19 outbreak. We have cleaned the property thoroughly to do our part to stop the spread of the virus and will continue to do so in the future.

For more information on Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, visit thompsonspeedway.com and follow the track on social media.

JENKINS from page 7

to learn and improve, resulting in impressive seasons on the mound for his sophomore and junior years.

“Last year’s playoff game against Barlett was one of the best pitched games I’ve ever seen at the high school level,” noted Robidoux about Jenkins. “A complete game on 71 pitches, throwing 62 for strikes, and completely dominating his competition.”

As Jenkins was scouted for NJIT, according to Robidoux it was easy to see why any college would want him as part of their program.

“Croix’s size, work ethic and ability were very attractive to college coaches, but what may have separated him from other recruits is his academic success and being an all-around great person,” stressed Robidoux. “Croix is a great teammate and leader. He leads by being out on the field early, being focused on what we are doing and working extremely hard. The other guys watch him and do the same. They also know when Croix is pitching, we have a chance to beat any team we play.”

Jenkins certainly put his time into baseball during his young- years, climbing the ranks in t-ball through little league, all stars, Babe Ruth, travel teams and Evolution Baseball (a club program), as well as Quabbin middle and high school teams.

Mark Battista, Jenkins’ coach for middle school and Central Mass. summer league ball, also saw something special in the exceptional athlete.

“Croix is hard working, always hustling, very coachable and has the mental toughness to be a pitcher, which is a huge strength,” said Battista. “Last year he dominated in high school and AAU summer tournaments. In college he can step right in a relief role as a freshman. Once he learns more and develops an off-speed pitch, he can be a starter.”

Jenkins’ parents, Nehr and Chris couldn’t be prouder of their son.

“We are excited he found a school that matches his desire to play baseball at a high level, along with his desire to attend a top-level engineering school,” said Nehr Jenkins. “New Jersey isn’t too far away, so he won’t be more than a train or car ride away. He’s being given lots of really exciting

opportunities, including being only a train ride away from New York City – which was far more exciting before this whole pandemic.”

Jenkins’ mother also stressed the significance academics plays in the athlete’s overall picture.

“Academics is so important, it really is what allows doors to open,” Nehr Jenkins said. “The best athletic program in the world, if it isn’t connected to the college that provides the academic program that interests your child, it isn’t worth looking at.”

In an interesting twist of fate, NJIT pitching coach Anthony Deleo, a Quabbin alum, heard about Jenkins from his family still in the area and decided to check him out.

And in turn Jenkins was able to check out NJIT and liked what he saw.

“I really liked the coaching staff at NJIT as well as the facilities, and the campus was also beautiful and new, with new labs,” commented Jenkins. “The appeal was the complete change in environment from the rural woods of Barre, to the big city of Newark, in close proximity of New York City.”

Jenkins also explained the

KEMP from page 7

said Adams.

Aside from Kemp, several other Quabbin wrestlers saw beyond the regular season when they competed in the Sectional tournament. Panther Cole Wilson earned a fifth-place spot and was an alternate at the Division 3 States. Sophomore C.J. Podkowka also did well by placing fourth and was one match away from placing eighth at the D3 States.

Quabbin junior Kenny Stolgitis finished off his season with a second-place finish at Sectionals and an eighth at D3 States.

“Although Kenny did not qualify for All-States, he had a great showing and proved to be very impressive at the end of the year,” Adams said.

Between a successful camp for the younger kids and the excitement that was generated this year during the regular season, Adams has positive thoughts for the future of the program.

“I hope to see more athletes come out for wrestling,” said Adams. “I do believe we will be able to find a few more and will see much more from the youth camp as they get older. I am excited to see some of those young athletes come through and look forward to coaching at Quabbin for a long time.”

Hannaford donates to area food banks

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Hannaford Supermarkets has announced its commitment to donate \$250,000 to support area food banks that are experiencing increasing and unprecedented demand during the widening of the COVID-19 global pandemic. The monies will be distributed to food banks in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont and New York.

Additionally, Hannaford is kicking off a register and store kiosk

donation program at all Hannaford grocery stores that will make it easy for customers to donate toward hunger relief.

Customers can donate to their community’s local food bank at the register with a \$5 or \$10 donation or with a cash donation at a kiosk located at the front of the store. (For a list of recipients for the donation and the register donation program please refer to the end of the press release.)

For those who prefer to make a

donation directly to the food bank, please go to <https://foodbank.org/2020/03/covid-19-updates/>.

Hannaford Supermarkets, based in Scarborough, Maine, operates 182 stores in the Northeast, including one in North Brookfield.. Stores are located in Maine, New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Hannaford employs more than 26,000 associates. Additional information can be found at Hannaford.com.

STAY-HOME from page 1

that provide essential services and workforces related to COVID-19, which will remain open as brick and mortar businesses during this two-week time period. This list is based on federal guidance and amended to reflect the needs of Massachusetts’ unique economy. While these businesses are designated as essential, they are urged to follow social distancing protocols for workers in accordance with guidance from the Department of Public Health, such as Ware’s Department of Public Health, which now has two shifts so the workers can remain far enough apart as they work.

Businesses and organizations not on the list of essential services are encouraged to continue operations through remote means that do not require workers, customers, or the public to enter or appear at the brick-and-mortar premises closed by the order.

Restaurants, bars, and other establishments that sell food and beverage products to the public can still offer food for take-out and by delivery if they follow the DPH’s social distancing protocols. Restaurants, such as Ware’s Hanna Devine’s on Main Street, is offering a special take-out menu on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

But eating and drinking on site is still prohibited.

Due to evolving spread of COVID-19 in Massachusetts, Baker has directed the DPH to issue a stay at home advisory outlining self-isolation and social-distancing protocols.

Residents are advised to stay home and avoid unnecessary travel and other unnecessary activities during the two-week time period. Residents over 70 years of age or with underlying health conditions, who are considered at high risk when exposed to COVID-19, should limit social interactions with other people as much as possible.

The administration does not believe Massachusetts residents can be confined to their homes and does not support home confinement for public health reasons.

The order also limits gatherings to 10 people during the state of emergency, a reduction from the 25-person limit established in an earlier order.

This includes community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based events, and any similar event or activity that brings together more than 10 persons in any confined indoor or outdoor space. The order does not prohibit gatherings of more than 10 people in an outdoor space, like a park or athletic field, but under-

ALL-STARS from page 7

all-time leading scoring in the final game of the regular season.

“I love both sports equally,” Young said. “I’ve been playing soccer and basketball since I was very little. I thought about playing soccer in college, but basketball was my first choice. If the two seasons were a little bit farther apart, I would probably play both sports in college.”

Young will only be playing college basketball at AIC next year.

It was the second year in a row that a member of the Granby girls soccer team was selected as the Division 4 girls Player of the Year.

“It’s very special to see two of our players selected as the Player of the Year during the past two years,” said Granby head coach Bob Weaver. “I’ve coached Nora during the past four years and she really deserved to receive the award this year. She’s a tremendous athlete and is a great kid. We’re really going to miss her next year.”

A member of the South Hadley girls soccer team, which captured the Division 3 state title last fall, also received the LAF Scholarship Award for the second consecutive year. Carla Jarrett was the scholarship recipient a year ago and Lindsay Marjanski was this year’s scholarship award winner.

“It feels very nice to be rewarded for all of the hard work that I’ve done,” Marjanski said. “I’ll be

attending Holy Cross College and I’m very excited about it.”

Just like Young, Marjanski will be playing a sport other than soccer at the collegiate level. She’ll be a member of the Crusaders women’s track and field team.

“I’ve already met the members of the team,” she said. “I’m looking forward to becoming a member of the track and field team next year. Holy Cross was the perfect fit for me both academically and athletically.”

Marjanski’s main event is high jump, but she will be able to do all of the events as a college freshman.

The other scholarship award winners are Robert Michalski (East Longmeadow H.S.), Erin Czelusniak (Lenox H.S.), and JT Novitsky (Lenox H.S.).

The members of the Division 1 girls first team are Emily DeGeorge (Agawam High School), Hope Santaniello (Agawam High School), Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown High School), and Brooke Samborski (Belchertown High School), Samantha Breton (Chicopee Comp High School), Emily Howard (Minnechaug Regional), Rhiann Ryan (Minnechaug Regional), and Katherine Russell (Minnechaug Regional).

The members of the Division 1 boys first team are Nate Mateus (Agawam High School), Connor Montagna (Agawam High School), Mamadi Jiana (Chicopee High School), Brennan Dort (Chicopee

High School), Anthony Quiterio (Ludlow High School), Michael Riley (Ludlow High School), and Michael Tuck Jr. (Ludlow High School).

The members of the Division 3 girls first team are Madelyn Doolittle (South Hadley High School), Anna Evans (South Hadley High School), Teagan Gawron(South Hadley High School), Lindsay Marjanski (South Hadley High School), Paige Marjanski (South Hadley High School), Bridget Sears (South Hadley High School), Tennessee Murphy (Monson High School), Alivia Skowyra (Monson High School), and Madalyn Theriault (Palmer High School).

The members of the Division 3 boys first team are Owen Raines (Belchertown High School), Zach Lajeunesse (Belchertown High School), Korey Houle (Belchertown High School), and Ethan Czapowski (Belchertown High School).

The members of the Division 4 girls first team are Julia Frappier (Granby High School), Nora Young (Granby High School), Julia Gauvin (Granby High School), Emily Vallee (Granby High School), and Caitlin Hess (Ware High School).

The members of the Division 4 boys first team are Logan Gerry (Monson High School), Shawn Jalbert (Monson High School), and Prescott Watson (Monson High School).



ABOVE: Panther Croix Jenkins releases a pitch from the mound in a game last spring.

LEFT: Panther Croix Jenkins gets ready to release a pitch from the mound in a game last spring.

Country Bank donates \$250,000 to four local hospitals

WARE – Country Bank announced today it has donated \$250,000 to four local hospitals to help assist with the work they are doing for their patients as they fight the COVID-19 pandemic. The hospitals receiving donations include Baystate Health in Springfield, Harrington Hospital in Southbridge, and UMass Memorial and Saint Vincent Hospital, both in Worcester.

“We are so grateful to Country Bank for its most generous support and appreciate its continued partnership during this unprecedented time. This gift will directly support resources needed at Baystate Health as we continue to address and prepare for the care our community needs as we face this worldwide pandemic,” said Scott Berg, vice president of philanthropy, Baystate Health, and executive director, Baystate Health Foundation.

Hannaford dedicates shopping hours for vulnerable customers

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Hannaford Supermarkets announced effective Tuesday, March 24 that its stores will offer dedicated shopping hours for people age 60 and older, as well as those with compromised immune systems. Stores will open early from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. on Tuesday through Thursday to service this vulnerable population and allow a less crowded shopping environment, which enables better social distancing.

In addition, Hannaford shortened its general store-operating hours starting Saturday, March 21, in order to provide for additional time to clean, stock shelves and give associates additional time to rest. The new daily hours are 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Providing a designated shopping period for seniors and at-risk individuals allows this population to shop prior to other customers being in the store. According to the Centers for Disease Control, people who are 60 and over and those with compromised immune systems are most vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus. Although

“These are challenging and ever-evolving times as we face uncertainty regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. As a community partner, we care deeply about our communities, and we wanted to support our local hospitals to help ease their financial burden as they continue to offer exceptional care to our friends and neighbors in the region,” stated Paul Scully, president, and CEO at Country Bank.

Country Bank is a full-service mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, and Worcester. Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF, and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached at 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.com.

associates will not be requesting ID for entry, Hannaford urges the community to respect the intention for the early opening.

“In this time of extraordinary circumstances, it is more important than ever to find new ways to better serve our community,” said Ericka Dodge, Hannaford spokesperson. “These new hours will support all our associates and customers, especially those that are most-vulnerable.”

Both efforts are temporary due to the unprecedented demand and resulting need, attributed to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Each will be reviewed and revised as circumstances evolve.

Hannaford Supermarkets, based in Scarborough, Maine, operates 182 stores in the Northeast, including the one in North Brookfield. Stores are located in Maine, New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Hannaford employs more than 26,000 associates. Additional information can be found at Hannaford.com.

Baystate Health sets up donation hotline

SPRINGFIELD – The phone hasn’t stopped ringing since Adam Quenneville recently put out an A.P.B. to local contractors to donate new N95 surgical respirator masks with NIOSH on the labeling to Baystate Health. Contractor calls and calls from other sources prompted Baystate Health to set up a donations hotline so it can review the calls to determine whether the supplies that are donated can be used by clinicians and how to drop them off.

“Our brotherhood of contractors is really coming together to get this done,” said Adam Quenneville, organizer of the drive. “Contractors from all over are reaching out to me directly. I am referring them to the new number at Baystate Health where they can learn if their donations can be used by staff and

how to get their donations to the hospital. We still need more N95 masks. Let’s keep it coming! Thank you and be well.”

“We continue to hear from contractors,” said Mary Persaud, consultant with clinical value analysis at Baystate Health. “Thank you.” She is coordinating the donation process to keep it safe and organized. N95 respirator masks with NIOSH imprinted on the labeling are designed to protect against particulate matter such as dust, fumes, mists, aerosols and smoke particulates. They are effective against biological particles such as pollen, mold spores, bacteria, viruses, animal dander and allergens, and aerosolized droplets invisible to the naked eye. To make a donation Phone: 413-794-2025, or email covid19PPE@baystatehealth.org.

Local farmers hope to provide CSA program

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WEST BROOKFIELD – As people drive past local farms on their way to supermarkets that may or may not have enough meat and other foods, farmer Matt Koziol is hoping more folks will think about patronizing local farms.

While he already offers an online store and home delivery for his grass-fed beef, he’s hoping he and other local farmers can work together to offer an early spring community-supported agriculture program, often known as a CSA. People pay a weekly or monthly amount and farms provide a variety of produce, sometimes meat and fruit.

“I’m really excited about the possibility,” said Koziol, who markets under the name Farmer Matt through his farm. “Details and permits have to be worked out with the Board of Health, but if it’s possible we could offer five pounds of beef, five pounds of produce that would produce five meals and a salad.” There will be two-person and four-person CSA boxes if approved.

Other farms, such as Honey Bee Orchards, also in West Brookfield, Walker Farm in New Braintree and West Brookfield, and Misty River View Farm, also in New Braintree.

At Misty River View Farm, they offer eight different flavors

of goat and lamb sausage, goose eggs and homemade soap, which is made with Swiss milk, Koziol said, and Walker Farm offers animal welfare approved, certified beef.

He is also trying to work with the Board of Health to include farm fresh eggs, as they have specific regulations and protocols that must be met, he said.

“As people are following the state’s direction, more people are going to be staying home,” he said. “This could be an answer for them because we’ll deliver it to their door, they don’t have to go out.”

He said if approved, there customers could request tweaks, such as Honey Bee providing deli meat and cheese, which they offer in their store on Route 9. “That would be the unique aspect of it,” he said.

“The problem with today’s grocery store food chain is it’s set up to provide food just-in-time,” Koziol said, and isn’t prepared to provide so much in such a little time.

The CSAs packages would include sweet potatoes, white potatoes, garlic, onions, celery and pepper, he said.

Different farmers and outlets, such as Honey Bee, can buy certain produce that isn’t being grown locally at wholesalers near Worcester to round out the offerings.

“We would source the vege-



Turley Publications courtesy photo
West Brookfield farmer Matt Koziol is hoping local farmers can offer solutions to supermarket shopping as supplies fluctuate and more people stay home.

tables with the least amount of food miles,” he said, such as getting fresh broccoli at wholesalers.

Koziol and other farmers are hoping if this early spring CSA is approved and made available, then they could offer summer CSA boxes together and retain customers from the spring.



Two of the many kitchen volunteers who helped put on the Veterans Council appreciation dinner for veterans and first responders.

First responders, veterans and their families eat and relax together on March 7 as the town shows them their appreciation for their service.

DINNER from page 1

granted, but her family ties keep her mindful of their sacrifices.

She said other unsung heroes are the spouses, children and other family members, who also answer the call by supporting first responders.

“I’d like to also acknowledge the incredible helpers that



Turley Publications courtesy photos
People of all ages, including this youngster, were among 112 veterans, first responders and their family members who were shown appreciation by the Veterans Council.

I had to be able to put this dinner together,” Acerra said. “I was honored and humbled to be able to give back in a small way to those that give all.”

Selectman Marc Richard gave kudos to Acerra for pulling the meal together. “It wouldn’t have happened without her,” he said.

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**TOWN OF WARREN
HIGHWAY
DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR
BIDS**

The Warren Highway Department is seeking sealed bids for road work under MGL Chapter 30B and 30B section 39M. Information can be obtained at Town Accountant’s Office, 48 High Street, Warren, MA, email to witaszek@warren-ma.gov, or email to olson@warren-ma.gov. **Bids will be open on April 8, 2020 at 1 p.m. at the Town Accountant’s office.** 3/26, 4/02/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413)586-8500
Docket No.
HS20P0169EA
Estate of:
Allen Arthur Reynolds
Also known as:
Allen A. Reynolds
Date of Death:
08/26/2019
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:

**unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/29/2020 .**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to

this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file inventory or annual accounts

with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Linda S Fidnick, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 18, 2020
Michael J. Carey
Register of Probate
3/26/2020

**INVITATION FOR BID
SCHOOL BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT
SERVICES
WARE PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B, the WARE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT IS accepting bids for SCHOOL BUSINESS M A N A G E M E N T SERVICES. Specifications will be available on **MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020, after 10AM** via email request to **aleclair@ware.k12.ma.us** and in the office at the

address below:
**WARE PUBLIC
SCHOOLS
239 WEST STREET
WARE, MA 01082**

Bids will be received at the WARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS’ SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE, 239 West Street, Ware, MA 01082, **no later than 10:00AM on April 8, 2020** to be publicly opened and read. **No bid will be accepted after 10:00AM on April 8, 2020.** Bids shall be filed in a sealed envelope, bearing the title “SCHOOL BUSINESS M A N A G E M E N T

SERVICES”, per specifications, delivered personally or by mail to WARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS’ SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE, 239 WEST STREET, WARE, MA 01082 **on or before 10:00AM, APRIL 8, 2020.** Questions may be referred to the following:
Dr. Marlene DiLeo,
Superintendent – mdileo@ware.k12.ma.us
3/19, 3/26/2020

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Nancy R. Marcil of Enfield CT requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Nancy R. Marcil of Enfield CT be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an

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visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

public safety

Warren Police Log

Sunday, March 15
7:06 a.m. Fire, Medical
Emergency Brimfield Road –
Transported to Hospital
12:51 p.m. Fire, Medical
Emergency Chapel Street –
Transported to Hospital

Monday, March 16
10:29 a.m. Fire, Auto/Car Mass
Pike – Fire Extinguished
12:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
Main Street – Citation Issued
7:02 p.m. Fraud Cutler Road –
Report Filed

Tuesday, March 17
12:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle
Stop Brimfield Road – Criminal
Complaint
Summons: Nichole R. Bressette,
27, West Warren
Unlicensed Operation of Motor
Vehicle (Expired/Nonrenewable),
2nd Offense
3 p.m. Disturbance, Person(s)
Pine Street – Transported to
Hospital
11:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle
Suspicious Carpenter Street –
Services Rendered

Wednesday, March 18
1:07 a.m. E-911 Hang-up/
Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Gilbert
Road – Officer Spoke to Party
10:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Suspicious Keys Road – Area
Patrolled
3:44 p.m. Fire, Medical
Emergency Gilbert Road –
Transported to Hospital
4:08 p.m. Suspicious Person
Gilbert Road – Officer Spoke to
Party
7:39 p.m. Disturbance,
Person(s) Bacon Street –
Ambulance Signed Refusal

Thursday, March 19
1:32 p.m. Property Damage
Main Street – Report Filed

Friday, March 20
11:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Accident Maple Street – Vehicle
Removed
1:01 p.m. Harassment Bridge
Street – Officer Spoke to Party
7:46 p.m. Fire, Medical
Emergency Mechanic Street –
Ambulance Signed Refusal
11:22 p.m. Fire, Medical
Emergency Main Street –
Transported to Hospital

Editor’s Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court’s final disposition.

Saturday, March 21
12:36 p.m. Disturbance, Noise
Complaint Crescent Street –
Officer Spoke to Party
2:56 p.m. Fire, Medical
Emergency Yankee Drummer Drive
– Transported to Hospital
3:37 p.m. Recreational Vehicle
Complaint Brimfield Road –
Services Rendered
8:21 p.m. Fire, Medical
Emergency Columbus Avenue –
Ambulance Signed Refusal

Hardwick Police Log

Sunday, March 1
1:38 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Church Street –
Written Warning
3:05 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written
Warning
3:17 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written
Warning
8:43 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written
Warning

Monday, March 2
10:06 a.m. Phone – Complaint
Greenwich Road – Taken/Referred
to Other Agency
5:59 p.m. 911 – Assist Citizen
Patrill Hollow Road – Services
Rendered

Tuesday, March 3
6:44 p.m. Initiated – Identity
Theft Barre Road – Report Taken

Wednesday, March 4
5:54 a.m. Phone – Medical
Emergency Prospect Street –
Transported to Hospital
6:26 a.m. Phone – Alarm Patrill
Hollow Road – Checked/Secured
1:53 p.m. 911 – Medical
Emergency Church Lane –
Transported to Hospital
4:09 p.m. Phone – Safety
Hazard North Road – Taken/
Referred to Other Agency

Emergency Main Street –
Transported to Hospital
11:45 a.m. 911 – Unattended
Death Mechanic Street – Death/
Unattended
9:45 p.m. Phone – Medical
Emergency Hardwick Road –
Transported to Hospital

Sunday, March 8
1:13 p.m. 911 – Lockout Church
Lane – Services Rendered
3:57 p.m. 911 – Medical
Emergency Barre Road –
Transported to Hospital
5:23 p.m. Phone – Threats
Hardwick Road – Spoken To
7:47 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Petersham Road –
Citation Issued
11:38 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written
Warning

Monday, March 9
2:32 p.m. 911 – Suspicious
Activity Greenwich Road –
Transferred Call to C7
3:20 p.m. 911- Fire, Brush Old
Petersham Road – Extinguished

Tuesday, March 10
12:45 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written
Warning
5:38 p.m. Initiated – Serve
Warrant Out of Town – Officer
Handled
10:08 p.m. Initiated –
Investigation Out of Town – Officer
Handled

Wednesday, March 11
9:52 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Citation
Issued
2:33 p.m. Initiated –
Investigation Turkey Street –
Investigated
8:04 p.m. Phone – Fire,
Illegal Burn/Permit High Street –
Extinguished

Thursday, March 12
3:29 p.m. Initiated – Vandalism
Barre Road – Investigated
4 p.m. 911 – Medical
Emergency Barre Road –
Transported to Hospital

Friday, March 13
8:28 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Petersham Road –
Written Warning

6:43 p.m. Initiated –
Investigation Turkey Street –
Officer Handled

Saturday, March 14
3:20 p.m. Initiated –
Investigation Turkey Street –
Investigated

Sunday, March 15
10:25 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Lower Road –
Written Warning
12:54 p.m. Initiated –
Complaint North Street –
Investigated

Monday, March 16
11:26 a.m. 911 – Fire, Brush
Chagnon Road – Extinguished

Tuesday, March 17
9:28 a.m. Phone – Medical
Alarm Petersham Road –
Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, March 18
11:30 a.m. Phone – Harassment
Via Social Media Patrill Hollow
Road – Spoken To
3:39 p.m. Phone – Stolen Motor
Vehicle Prospect Street – Report
Taken

Thursday, March 19
2:03 p.m. Phone – Disturbance
Pine Street – Peace Restored
5:14 p.m. Phone – Neighbor
Dispute Greenwich Road – Spoken
To

Friday, March 20
5:55 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Investigation Main Street –
Transported to Hospital

Saturday, March 21
11:57 p.m. Phone – Complaint
Turkey Street – Spoken To

Sunday, March 22
2:56 p.m. 911 – Complaint/
Motor Vehicle Operations School
House Drive – Taken/Referred to
Other Agency
6:54 p.m. Phone – Fraud Main
Street – Taken/Referred to Other
Agency

Monday, March 23
12:29 p.m. 911 – Misdial
Mellon Road – Spoken To

Sullivan takes steps to keep pretrial detainees safe from COVID-19

NORTHAMPTON – In light of the increasing threat that COVID-19 presents to those in the criminal justice system, Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan and his staff have taken proactive measures to reduce the risk faced by pretrial detainees held in local correctional facilities.

The Northwestern District Attorney’s Office has commenced a review of all pending cases in Hampshire and Franklin County in which the defendant is held on bail, with the goal of identifying individuals whose release would not endanger the lives and safety of the general public or pose a significant flight risk.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic even reached this area, Northwestern prosecutors sought bail only in those few cases where it was deemed necessary to ensure the person’s appearance in court. Consequently, the number of criminal defendants held on bail in the Northwestern District is among the lowest in Massachusetts; and when accounting for defendants who have already been convicted and are now serving sentences, the Northwestern District has one of

the lowest incarceration rates, per capita, in the nation.

When identifying pretrial detainees who may qualify for a bail reduction, the District Attorney’s Office is prioritizing: defendants whose bail is \$5,000.00 cash or less, which covers the vast majority of non-violent crimes and misdemeanors; persons 60 or older, who may be at higher risk of illness; and persons whose health or immune systems are compromised. Prosecutors have already identified several detainees who meet one or more of these criteria, and have begun discussing their cases with their defense attorneys.

In addition to conducting this internal review, the District Attorney’s Office has encouraged the defense bar to contact the Office with requests to review specific cases, even if they do not necessarily meet the criteria set out above. While recognizing that incarceration is a highly-restrictive environment, our local sheriffs are among the most progressive in the state (if not the nation) in providing a humane and healthy environment for those held on bail

or serving sentences.

At the current time, the Northwestern District Attorney’s Office is not inclined to revisit the detention status of those defendants who the courts have deemed too dangerous to release pursuant to G.L. c. 276, § 58A, or those defendants whose bail has been revoked based on their commission of a new offense while already out on bail or pre-trial release. Although cognizant of the dangers posed by the current health crisis, prosecutors must also be mindful of the dangers that these individuals would pose to victims and public were they to be released. Sullivan is advocating for release of low-risk, non-violent inmates where appropriate, through the Department of Correction, our local sheriffs, and the Parole Board.

Sullivan looks forward to continuing his Office’s collaboration with all stakeholders in the criminal justice system to strike the right balance between protecting the health, safety and constitutional rights of the accused, with the duty to protect and serve the community at large.

Community Foundation establishes \$1M COVID-19 response fund

SPRINGFIELD — The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts announced the COVID-19 Response Fund for the Pioneer Valley has been established with a lead gift of \$1 million from MassMutual.

Along with MassMutual’s gift, CFWM is contributing \$500,000 to the Response Fund. Big Y, Easthampton Savings Bank, Greenfield Cooperative Bank/ Northampton Cooperative Bank and PeoplesBank have also committed to contributing to the fund. Other area businesses and philanthropic organizations are being encouraged to contribute to the fund, as is the general public.

“The impact of the coronavirus

pandemic is placing an extraordinary burden on families and individuals in the Pioneer Valley,” Katie Allan Zobel, president and CEO of the Community Fund, said. “Business, philanthropy and community organizations are coming together to establish this response fund to support those who are in need. It’s another example of our region’s extraordinary generosity and community commitment.”

Hosted by the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, the COVID-19 Response Fund will provide flexible resources to Pioneer Valley nonprofit organizations serving populations most impacted by the crisis, such as the elderly, those

without stable housing, families needing food and those with particular health vulnerabilities.

Funds initially will be given to existing community-based organizations who currently serve vulnerable populations and who are best able to identify those requiring crisis services.

Zobel said the fund will be flexible in responding to current needs and as unforeseen needs arise in the community.

Those interested in making a gift to the fund should visit <http://communityfoundation.org/coronavirus-donations/>, or contact the Community Foundation at donor-services@communityfoundation.org.

Sparky the Fire Dog celebrates 69 years

Everybody’s favorite fire safety dog, Sparky the Fire Dog, celebrates his 69th birthday recently. In recognition of Sparky’s big day, the National Fire Protection Association is reminding the public that fire continues to present real risks and must be taken seriously: A structure fire occurs in the U.S. every 24 seconds, resulting in an annual average of 493,797 fires, 2,844 deaths, 12,812 injuries, and \$10.5 billion in direct property damage.

“Sparky is an emblem of fire safety for kids and adults alike, and his messages are just as relevant today as they were nearly 70 years ago,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of outreach and advocacy for NFPA.

According to Carli, today’s homes burn faster than ever, making home fire safety messages all the more critical. “While the number of home fires have declined significantly over the past four decades, the risk of dying in a fire remains about the same, which means we still have a lot more work to do to make the public safer from fire.”

Created by NFPA in 1951, Sparky has served as the associ-

ation’s official mascot for nearly seven decades, helping fire professionals, teachers, civic organizations, corporations, and the media deliver invaluable fire and life safety educational insights to people of all ages. With dogged determination, Sparky has elevated awareness around the places people are at greatest risk to fire, while promoting basic but essential prevention messages.

“People tend to be over-confident when it comes to fire safety, particularly at home. In many cases, that complacency translates to a lack of planning and prevention, which puts people at increased risk,” said Carli. “In short, Sparky still has a lot of work to do when it comes to educating the public about how to truly be safe from fire.”

As Sparky blows out the battery-operated candles on his 69th birthday cake, consider some of his key fire safety messages: Install smoke alarms on every level of the home, in each bedroom, and near all sleeping areas. Test smoke alarms once a month using the test button. Make a home escape plan with all members of your household. Draw

a map of the home, marking all doors and windows with a path from each exit to the outside, and choose a meeting place outside where everyone will meet upon exiting. Practice your escape plan regularly – at least twice a year - with all members of your household.

Sparky’s website offers a wealth of age-appropriate games, videos, apps, and other activities that make learning about fire safety easy and fun. Visit Sparky’s Facebook page for additional fire safety information, resources and messages, many of which can be easily downloaded and shared.

Founded in 1896, NFPA is a global self-funded nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. The association delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and standards, research, training, education, outreach and advocacy; and by partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission. For more information, visit www.nfpa.org.

New Braintree Police Log

Sunday, March 1
4:23 p.m. Phone – Alarm Oakham
Cut Off Road – Checked/Secured

Tuesday, March 3
9:56 a.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle
Investigation Rte. 67 – Officer
Handled

Thursday, March 5
12:38 p.m. Walk-in – Found/Lost
Property Memorial Drive – Officer
Handled
10:42 p.m. Walk-in – Larceny/
Theft/Shoplifting Memorial Drive –
Report Taken

Friday, March 6
5:17 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Ravine Road – Citation

Issued
5:32 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Ravine Road – Citation
Issued

Sunday, March 8
12:17 p.m. 911 – Fire, Other West
Road – No Action Required

Wednesday, March 11
4:01 p.m. 911 – Carbon
Monoxide Alarm Prouty Road –
Investigated
5:57 p.m. Initiated – Fire,
Illegal Burn/Permit Moore Road –
Extinguished

Thursday, March 12
3:45 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Barre Cut Off Road –

Citation Issued
5:24 p.m. Initiated – Radar
Hardwick Road – Citation Issued
5:38 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road –
Citation Issued

Saturday, March 14
8:08 p.m. 911 – Complaint/Motor
Vehicle Operations Gilbertville Road
– Investigated

Sunday, March 15
6:30 p.m. 911 – Medical
Emergency Gilbertville Road –
Transported to Hospital

Monday, March 16
1:52 p.m. Phone – Alarm
Hardwick Road – Services Rendered

Tuesday, March 17
5:42 a.m. 911 – Medical
Emergency Skivira Lane – Services
Rendered

Wednesday, March 18
12:35 p.m. Phone – Larceny/
Theft/Shoplifting Ravine Road –
Report Taken

Thursday, March 19
5:15 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard
Gilbertville Road – Services
Rendered

Monday, March 23
10:28 a.m. 911 – Disabled
Motor Vehicle Barr Road – Services
Rendered

A	S	A	P			B	A	B		A	M	A
R	U	B	I	A		A	C	E		A	B	A
C	L	I	M	B		N	O	R		B	E	N
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S	C	A	M			N	A	E		R	A	B
E	E	L				S	L	R		S	A	S

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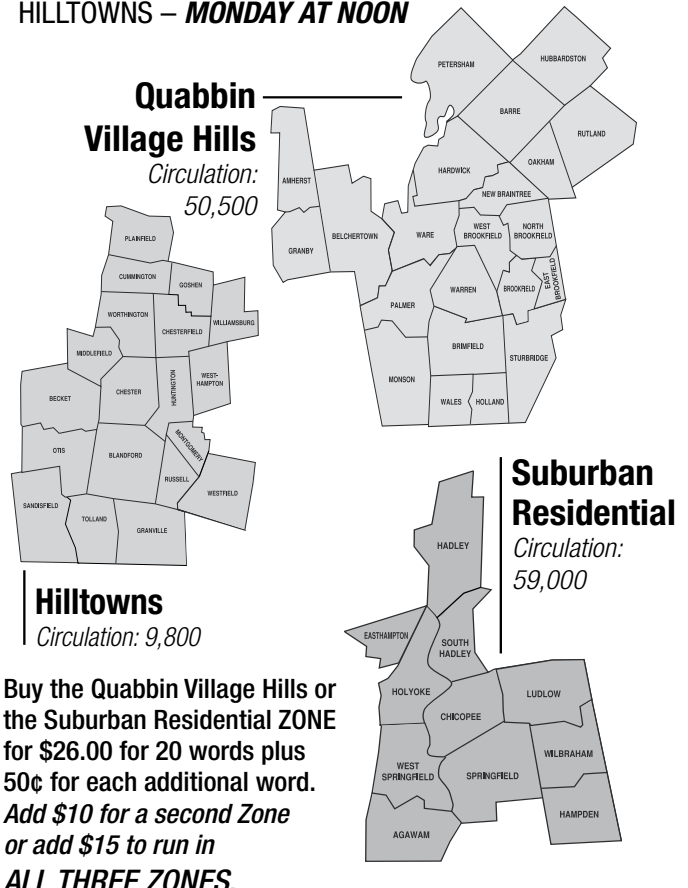
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17	18	19	20
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25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
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